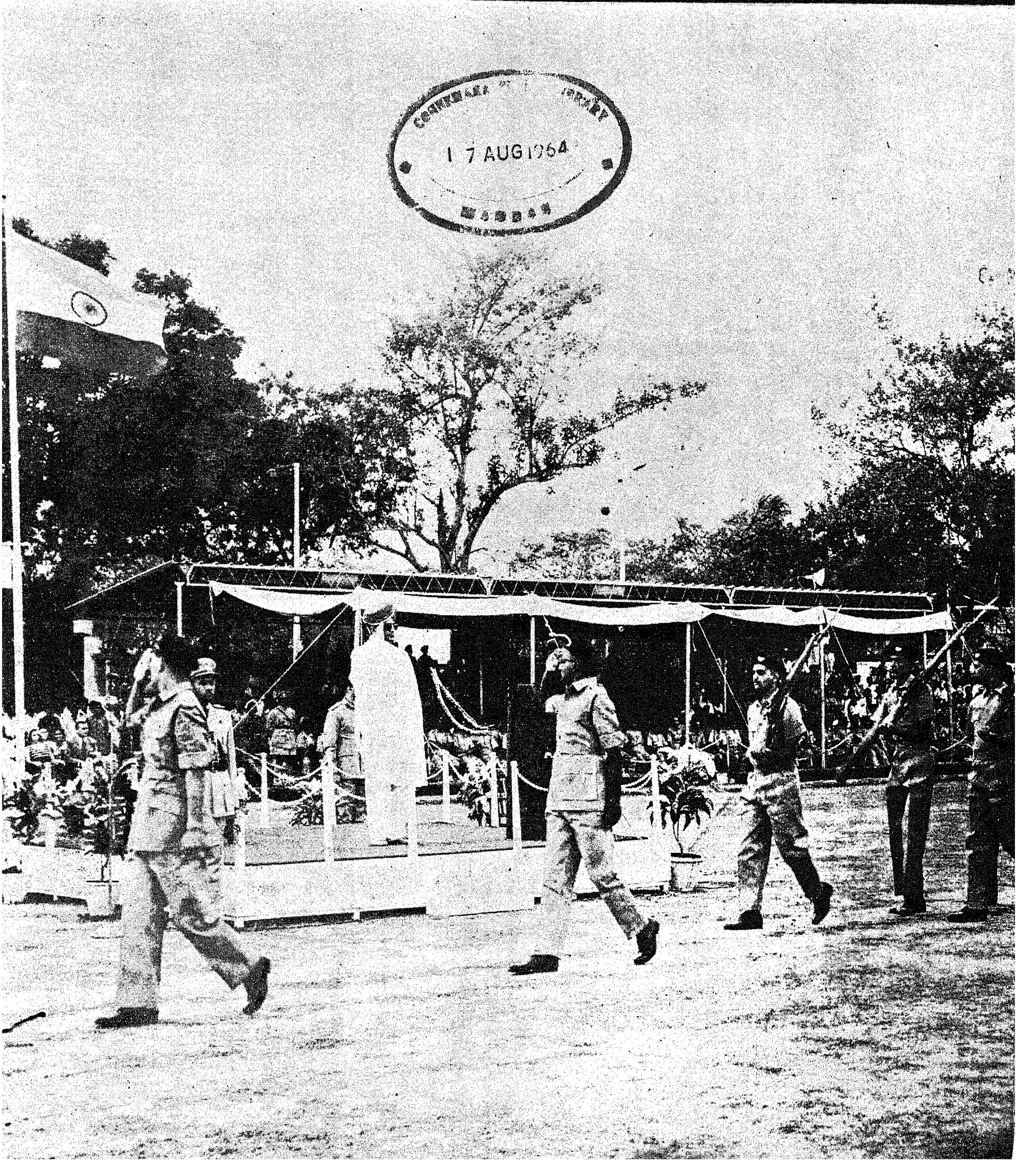
Madras information

AUGUST - 1964

PRICE 20 paise



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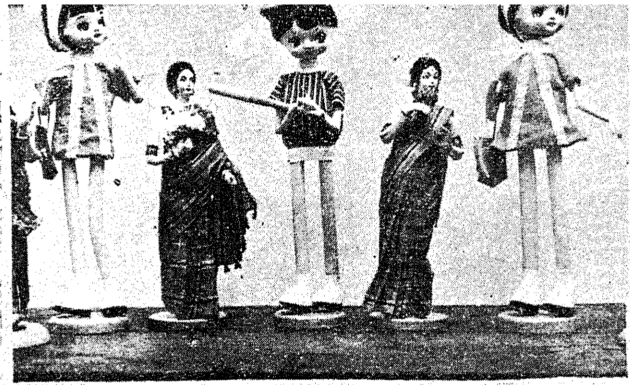
MADRAS



DOLLS AND TOYS EXHIBITIO

The Industries and Commerce Department has organized an exhibition of Dolls and Toys recently at Rajaji Hall, Madras

Some of the exhibits are seen here

No price is Too High To Pay for Freedom

CITIZEN'S DUTIES

1. To render all possible help and assistance for the defence personnel.
2. To increase the production of his factory.
3. To intensify efforts for increased production of agricultural and small-scale industrial commodities to make his State self-sufficient.
4. To avoid all strikes and lock-outs that may hamper production.
5. To maintain the price level of all essential commodities and curb the tendencies of hoarding and profiteering by conforming to the various legislative and other popular measures.
6. To maintain the supply lines of essential commodities.
7. To contribute generously in the form of money and gold for the war effort.
8. To inculcate the highest sense of duty and responsibility.
9. To join the various organizations set up for the defence of the country.
10. To prevent anti-social and anti-national activities of the fifth columnists.
11. To observe strict austerity in consumption of food, clothes and other essential goods and save for the National Defence Fund.
12. To avoid unnecessary travel so that more important and essential movement may not be hampered.
13. To keep up the morale of the people and prepare them for sacrifices.
14. To check rumour-mongering and to disseminate true and faithful news and information.
15. To join or help Citizens' Committee, N.C.C., Territorial Army and Lok Sahayak Sena and Rifle Clubs.
16. To pray for the victory of our Motherland in this struggle and set aside all differences of caste, creed or party.

7 AUG 1964

Madras Information

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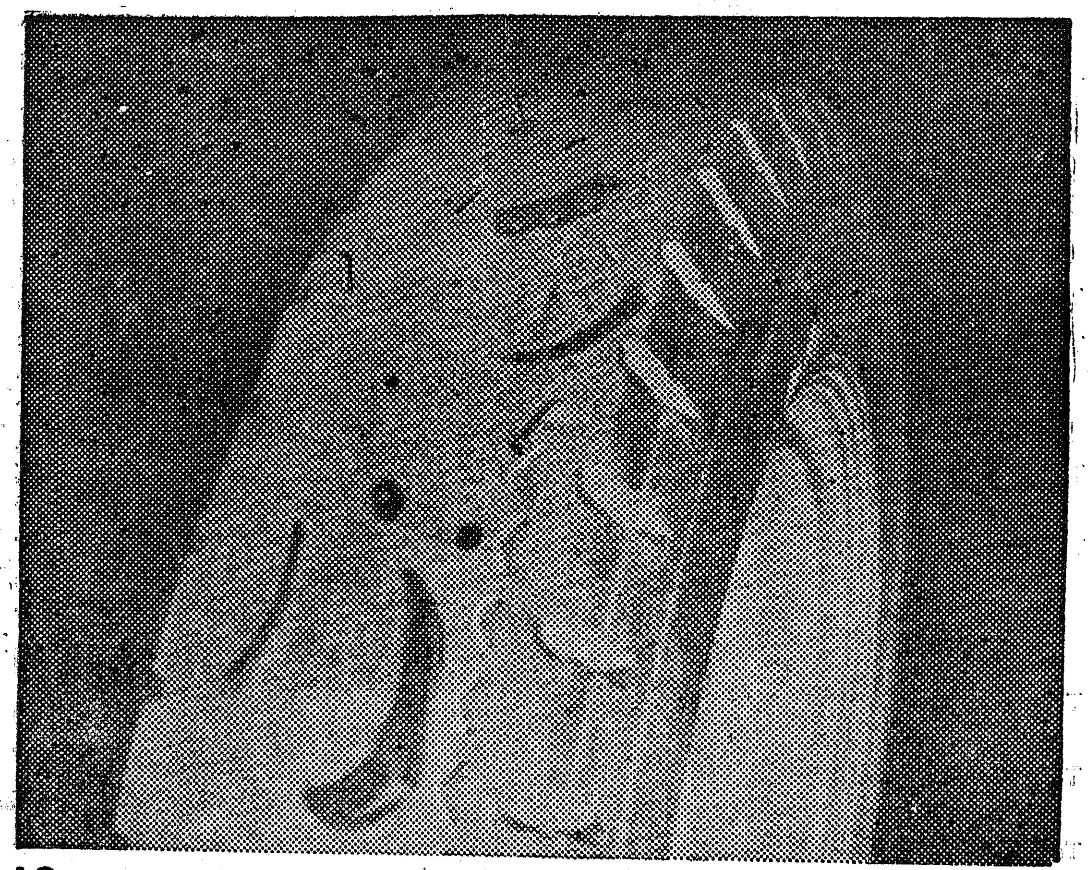
THIS MONTH'S COVER

For the first time after Seventeen Years, we will be celebrating the Independence Day and saluting the National Flag without Prime Minister Nehru participating in the function. If we should guard the freedom from internal and external dangers, we should follow the ideals of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru who led us to freedom and who, through seventeen years of ceaseless toil, laid the foundations for the modern industrial economy When saluting the National Flag this year, we should think of Sri Jawaharlal Nehru and rededicate ourselves to the service of the Nation



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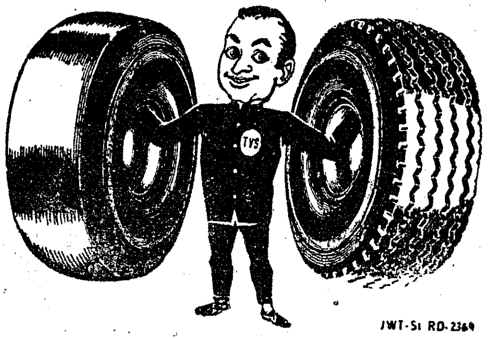

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TOWARDS Economic FREEDOM

Sri Jawaharlal Nehru has thrown himself heart and soul in the struggle for political freedom of the country which he felt was a pre-condition for the economic freedom of his fellow countrymen. After Independence that First Servant of India as he called himself has guided the Nation for the past seventeen years till he breathed his last on May 27th this year. Under his leadership till recently we have been facing successfully many problems and in spite of many odds the country has been making steady progress in many fields. It would be interesting and fruitful to read the speech of Sri Nehru made on the First Independence Day, 1947, on the 15th of this month.

It has been my privilege to serve India and the cause of India's freedom for many years. Today I address you for the first time officially as the First Servant of the Indian people, pledged to their service and their betterment. I am here because you willed it so and I remain here so long as you choose to honour me with your confidence.

We are a free and sovereign people today and we have rid ourselves of the burden of the past. We look at the world with clear and friendly eyes and at the future with faith and confidence.

The burden of foreign domination is done away with, but freedom brings its own responsibilities and burdens and they can only be shouldered in the spirit of a free people, self-disciplined and determined to preserve and enlarge that freedom.

Our new tasks

We have achieved much, we have to achieve much more. Let us then address ourselves to our new tasks with the determination and adherence to high principles which our great leader has taught us. Gandhiji is fortunately with us to guide and inspire and ever to point out to us the path of high endeavour. He taught us long ago that ideals and objectives can never be divorced from the methods adopted to realize them; that worthy ends can only be achieved through worthy means. If we aim at the big things of life, if we dream of India as a great nation giving her age-old message of peace and freedom to others, then we have to be big ourselves and be worthy children of Mother India. The eyes of the world are upon us watching this birth of freedom in the East and wondering what it means.

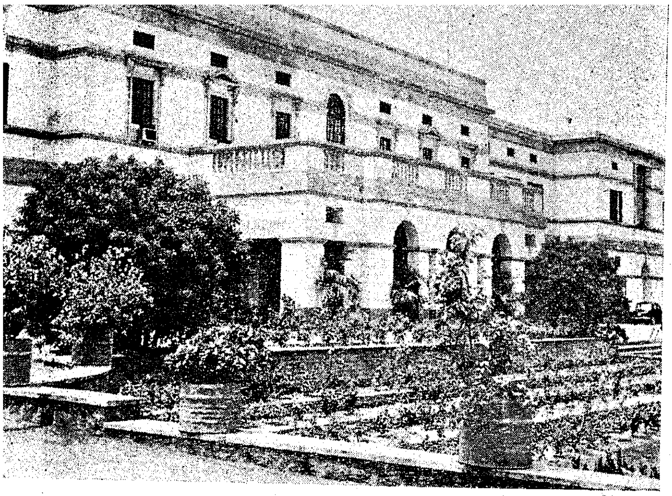
Our first and immediate objective must be to put an end to all internal strife and violence, which disfigure and degrade us and injure the cause of freedom. They come in the way of consideration of the great economic problems of the masses of the people which so urgently demand attention.

Our long subjection and the World War and its aftermath have made us inherit an accumulation of vital problems and today our people lack food and clothing

PRODUCTION IS WEALTH

Production means wealth. If we do not produce we have not enough wealth. Distribution is equally important so that wealth cannot accumulate in the hands of a few, nevertheless before we think of distribution, there must be production.

—*JAWAHARLAL NEHRU*



The Teen Murti Marg which will be used as a memorial to the late Sri Jawaharlal Nehru, was built in 1929–30. Designed by Mr R. C. Russel, an architect of the Central Public Works Department, the building was used as Commander-in-Chief's residence. In June 1948, it was decided to use this Building as the Prime Minister's residence Sri Jawaharlal Nehru occupied the building in the first week of August. 1948. The main house is a double-storey building with a plinth area of 47,554 sq. ft. The estate covers an area of 44·74 acres.

and other necessaries, and we are caught in a spiral of inflation and rising prices. We cannot solve these problems suddenly, but we cannot also delay their solution. So we must plan wisely so that the burdens on the masses may grow less and their standards of living go up. We wish ill to none, but it must be clearly understood that the interests of our long-suffering masses must come first and every entrenched interest that comes in their way must yield to them. We have to change rapidly our antiquated land tenure system, and we have also to promote industrialization on a large and balanced scale, so as to add to the wealth of the country, and thus to the national dividend which can be equitably distributed.

First Priority

Production to day is the first priority, and every attempt to hamper or lessen production is injuring the nation, and more especially harmful to our labouring masses. But production by itself is not enough, for this may lead to an even greater concentration of wealth in a few hands, which comes in the way of progress and which, in the context for today, produces instability and conflict. Therefore, fair and equitable distribution is essential for any solution of the problem.

The Government of India have in hand at present several vast schemes for developing river valleys by controlling the flow of rivers, building dams and reservoirs and irrigation works and developing hydro-electric power. These will lead to all-round development. These schemes are thus basic to all planning and we intend to complete them as rapidly as possible so that the masses may profit.

Necessary Conditions

All this requires peaceful conditions and the co-operation of all concerned, and hard and continuous work. Let us then address ourselves to these great and worthy tasks and forget our mutual wrangling and conflicts. There is a time for quarrelling and there is a time for co-operative endeavour. There is a time for work and there is a time for play. Today, there is no time for quarrelling or overmuch play, unless we prove false to our country and our people. Today, we must co-operate with one another and work together, and work with right goodwill.

I should like to address a few words to our Services' civil and military. The old distinctions and differences are gone and today we are all free sons and daughters of India, proud of our country's freedom and joining together in our service of her. Our common allegiance is to India. In the difficult days ahead our Services and our experts have a vital role to play and we invite them to do so as comrades in the service of India.

JAI HIND

Whither do we go

The future beckons to us. Whither do we go and what shall be our endeavour? To bring freedom and opportunity to the common man, to peasants and workers of India, to fight and end poverty and ignorance and disease, to build up a prosperous, democratic and progressive nation, and to create social, economic and political institutions which will ensure justice and fullness of life to every man and woman.

—*Jawaharlal Nehru*

Role Of AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT — OFFICIALS

SRI LAL BAHADUR SHASTRI,
Prime Minister

The Chief Ministers' Conference held recently in New Delhi discussed the food problem and the price situation. Sri Lal Bahadur Shastri while addressing the Conference suggested that the officials of the Food and Agriculture Department should go round the villages and get into direct contact with the people and create enthusiasm in them.

The present problem of tackling the food situation can be considered in two ways, that is, we can consider the short-term as well as the long-term measures. In the short-term measures, we may have to take very quick and prompt action. But while thinking of the short-term measures, we cannot completely ignore the long-term measures.

Key to the problem

In fact, the real key to the problem is increased food production in our country and unless we achieve our objective in this regard we will always be faced with a difficult situation off and on. It is bad that on account of shortage of food production our economy should be put in jeopardy off and on and that we should have to face a crisis. It is therefore of great importance that we must seriously consider the long-term measures as well as giving thought to the short-term measures.

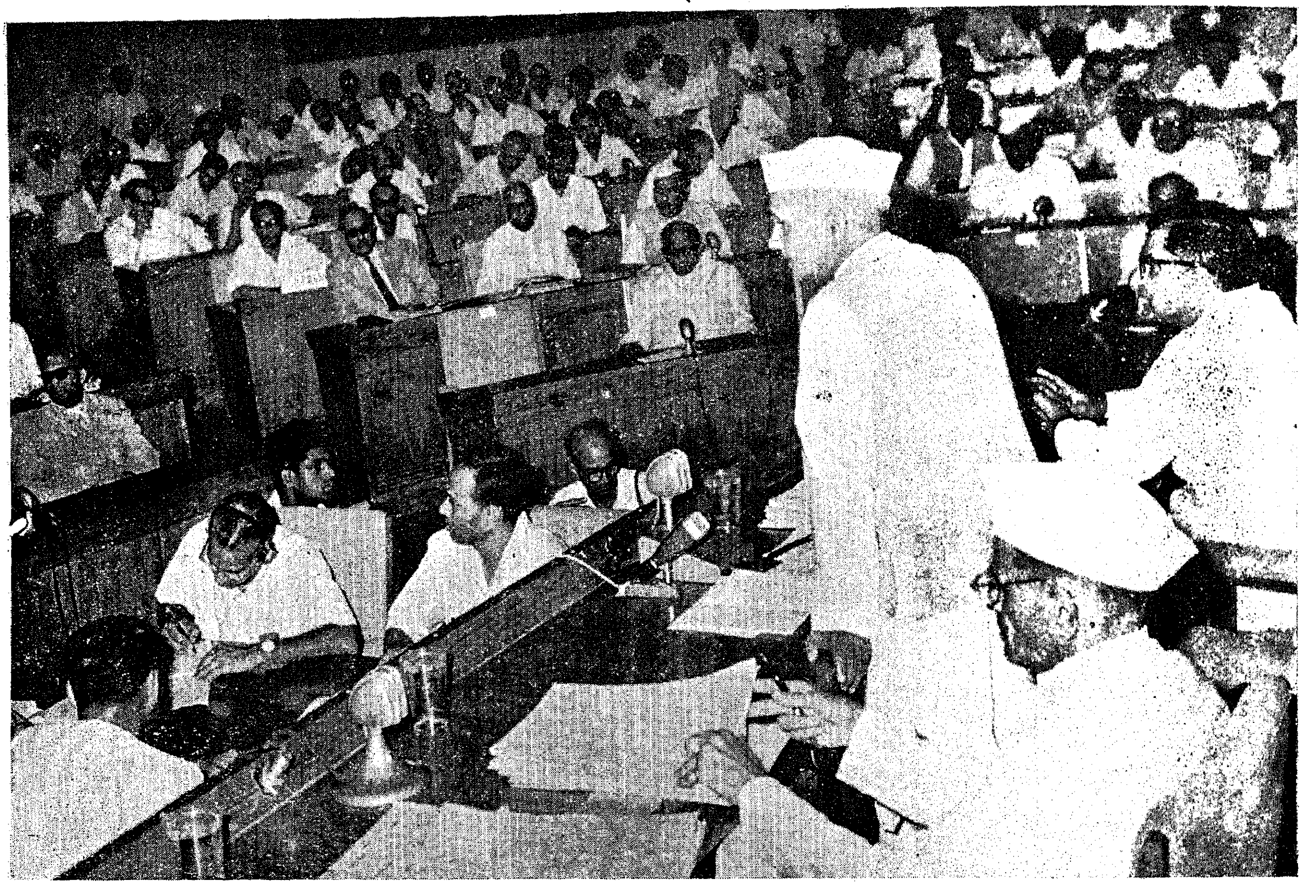
In so far as long-term measures are concerned, I cannot naturally go into detail and you are, perhaps, more aware of them than myself, because you have to deal directly with the people, with the cultivators and with others concerned. However, whatever experience I have is that of a humble worker in the field and my presumptions may be wrong and my calculations may not be correct. Yet for a small worker like me, it is impossible to believe that we cannot increase our food production or we cannot fight the shortage of food in our country. How to do it? This will have to be considered by you and by us.

Community Development

There is, for example the Community Development Department. What should it do at the present moment, besides the temporary steps it might take? In fact, the Community Development should be the most effective department to increase the present quantum of production.

I have a feeling and I shall leave it to you to ultimately decide, but my feeling is that the Community Development Department should for the next one year at least do nothing else except to concentrate on the question of increase in agricultural production.

Every worker in the block should see to it that every field is attended to—every piece of agricultural field in his area is fully attended to—every field must be surveyed and its potentiality decided upon, that is, what is the present production, what should be its production six months hence or a year later—a complete survey of each and every field should be undertaken and proper statistics kept. After six months there should be a review—what was the target you laid for a particular field and what has been actually the result. If the



The Prime Minister, Sri Lal Bahadur Shastri, addressing the conference of the State Chief Ministers which met at New Delhi on June 24, 1964 to discuss the present food situation

result is unsatisfactory, the Community Development block along with other officers should consider the reasons for the same—whether there was shortage of supply of manures, whether proper seeds were given; whether water was made available to them, did the irrigation canals supply the water in time, etc. They can look into various other matters also.

Work in fields important

So we have to work in the field and less in our offices. And I do think that the Community Development Department can play a very important role in this regard. The Agriculture Department of course have done very good work and there has been a considerable increase in production in 1963-64 and yet it does not meet our requirement. I remember the late Prime Minister laying the utmost stress on the importance of the work of the Agriculture Department in the States. In fact, he had even once suggested, if I am not wrong, that the Food and Agriculture Department should be taken over by the Chief Ministers themselves. I am not making that suggestion at the present moment, but it only shows that importance he attached to it. And he did so because our whole economy is based on adequate food porduction and not depending too much on imports. So, as both the Chief Ministers as well as Ministers for Food and Agriculture are here, I would beg of you to see that the Food and Agriculture Minister or his Ministry gets the fullest support of the whole Government, the State Government. Financial difficulties or hurdles should not come in the way and there also I would suggest that officers of the Agriculture Departments in the States should be working more in the fields. Of course some officers are needed in the Secretariat, but at the district level officials of the Agriculture Department should be much more in contact with the people, with the cultivators.

Own experience

I have some experience, my own experience. I am not accusing the officials but yet in my own constituency I have seen that in far off villages, in one place, about 60 miles away from the headquarters, where some of the officials were staying next door I think, not even 50 yards away from where I was staying. As it was my own constituency, I did not take any official with me. No one was with me. I was staying there and meeting the tenants, cultivators. They had come with their representation and were staying there the whole night. I was surprised to see that those who were connected with the work of food and agriculture, as

RICE MILLS IN PUBLIC SECTOR

Two important announcements made at the Chief Ministers' Conference held recently in New Delhi were the Government's decision to install a number of modern rice processing units in the public sector and the drawing up of a special action programme of credit to agriculturists by the Reserve Bank of India.

well as with the irrigation departments, did not care to come and talk to me. And believe me that I was a Minister then. They need not have called on me as a Minister—I did not expect it—but they should have come to me as a Member of Parliament. They should have asked me what complaints I had received, what difficulties the people in that area had. They did not turn up at all.

Cultivators' difficulty

So it is the work of the Agriculture Department and other departments, irrigation specially. They are more or less functioning in a routine manner. Reports are prepared. Papers are quite all right and the result is that more or less they are indulging in superficialities. My words may be harsh but yet we have to be frank amongst ourselves, and I must say, I have got my own experience. It may not be so in other States and it may not be so in other parts of U.P., but the largest number of complaints we received from the tenants these days is about the irrigation department. They do not get water at the right time, or they get surplus water when it is not needed. Then, of course, there are other difficulties which the cultivators have to face. The result is that water being available, the tenant and cultivator are not in a position to utilise it to the best manner possible. I do not know how we will tackle it but what I want to suggest is that we have waited long and it is time that we go to the villages ourselves. So far as I am concerned, I proposed to go without pomp and show of a Prime Minister.

Contact with people

It is better to go and stay in a far off village for three or four days and get into real touch and contact with the people. We must stay there, we must stay with them and talk to them. We have thought over these matters earlier but I am also guilty, and perhaps most of us are guilty, that we have not done so. As soon as we hold office we get involved in so many problems, we have to look to so many things. Yet once in a year or twice in a year, it should not be difficult for each and everyone of us to go and live in villages for at least three days. If we meet 100 people or 200 people we will really know what the actual position is. Therefore, if we take the lead, I have no doubt the officials and the departments concerned will try to follow us. But whether we give the lead or not, the officials cannot shirk their own responsibilities. There is absolutely no harm in even the Secretary of the Food and Agriculture Department going round the villages or in getting into direct touch or contact with his district officers. He might be doing it, but speeches or lectures alone will not suffice.

So what I want to suggest is, how do we get into direct contact and touch with our people and how to create some kind of new enthusiasm in them ? We have made tremendous progress in industries and the achievement is something marvellous, if I may choose that word. But agriculture still remains a sleeping partner. Why has this happened ? Sometimes I feel, so far as industries are concerned it is easier to tackle them. It is an organised sector. There is not much of labour involved in it, but in the case of agriculture where you have to deal with millions, where you have to deal with vast areas, a dispersed population, we are not so good at that, although we should have been. We derived all our strength before independence from the peasants and from the cultivators. We went to villages, worked for months together.

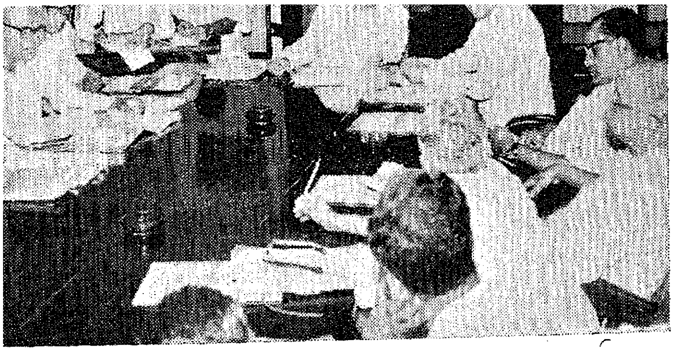
Essentially human factor

As the Secretary of the District Congress Committee of Allahabad, I remember in the year 1934—a very difficult period at that moment because of the movement of 1932, a very big movement withdrawn by Gandhiji and the Congress was almost at its lowest ebb—I went round the villages for full one month, did not return to the city and of course explained our policy or programme to them.

MADRAS GOVERNMENT'S DECISION

The Government of Madras has issued orders stopping procurement of rice in the State with immediate effect.

The orders follow the decision taken at the Conference of Chief Ministers held at New Delhi from June 24 to 26 that the procurement of rice in Madras and Andhra Pradesh States in the Southern Rice Zone should be given up and that all restrictions, formal and informal, on the movement of paddy and rice between the States within the zone should be withdrawn.



Sri C. Subramaniam, Union Food Minister, holding discussion with the State Food Ministers of Madras, Andhra and Kerala on 14th July 1964 at Madras

In India at least in our freedom struggle, it is the cultivator, it is the peasant, who has lent his fullest support to us. But because of the various problems, our new officers perhaps do not find it possible to give them again a new life and new enthusiasm. So it is essential that while dealing with the human factor and the question of peasantry, and of food and agriculture, we realise that it is essentially, a question of human factor, human element. How do we deal with it ? How do we create in them a sense of mission, a sense of purpose ? So I do therefore lay the utmost stress—of course I do not exclude myself nor the Ministers—but specially I would like the officials to try to contact the people, go into the fields, listen to their difficulties and solve them on the spot.

Package programme

For example I am told that about the Package programme much has not been done yet. It is a big experiment, a big trial, where you feed the cultivators with all the things needed. But as far as I know, the achievement so far has not been very significant. If we concentrate on certain sectors in certain areas and if we do not produce the desired results, it would depress me and depress all of you. So I would suggest that this programme, this Package programme, needs your fullest attention and it will show to us where things are lacking and what we should do in the case of other areas, because this would be a model of what is to be done throughout the country. So adequate attention has to be paid to it.

In so far as the short term programme is concerned it has assumed great importance.

Distribution of foodgrains

As I said, the increased production is of the highest importance, but perhaps it is in no way less important that we should make necessary arrangements for satisfactory distribution of foodgrains. What should be the proper distributing agency. And if distribution is properly done then there is not so much fluctuation in prices. I do not say that the prices of foodgrains could be isolated from the general economic problems of the country—our general economic situation, our policies, our fiscal policies and other measures, they are all taken together. However, unsatisfactory distribution leads sometimes to difficulties and to soaring prices.

Rise in prices

The prices have gone very high. The extent to which prices have risen, I shall give you some indication. Wholesale prices in India are now at the highest level ever reached and we are entering the difficult lean season when prices normally rise further. The general index at 144·5 on May 30, 1964, is 8·6 per cent above the level a year ago. Prices of foodgrains and other agricultural commodities in particular have risen sharply in the past year. While prices of food articles have gone up by 13 per cent, cereal prices have increased as much as 16·5 per cent. This rise in prices imposes, it is needless to add, extreme hardship and inequity on large sections of the people ; and it is naturally the foremost problem in people's mind today.

As I said earlier, our entire developmental effort for which we have toiled all these years and sacrificed so much is in danger. Well, there are many factors causing this rise in prices. As I said, this will have to be reviewed. But the major cause of upward surge of prices is the rise in prices of foodgrains, specially cereals. And I feel so sad that this shortage of food supplies is also due to the sections concerned not fully realising their own responsibilities in the matter.

Foodgrains are available, cereals are available somewhere and in the country, not outside the country, and yet it is not coming into the market. This is an unfortunate situation. We are faced with it and the result is that shortage has considerably increased during this period. Well, how to deal with it, how to tackle it, we will certainly consider now.

It is essential that Government should have adequate stocks at its disposal. We must have a buffer stock and for that Government will have to procure foodgrains. I am not talking of State trading as such at the present moment. But what is important is an adequate and sufficient reserve with us so that we can fight the trading community if they do not behave. So, how to procure without causing the minimum trouble to the peasant and the cultivator. I know we have not got the necessary machinery but we must have a proper agency to deal with it. I am not opposed to procurement and State trading. But we must consider these matters in the practical manner.

Peasants our assets

Again, I remember the days of 1937–38, the U.P. Government—in U.P. we had Congress Government.

There was complete rationing and control in U.P. then. Procurement was done on a big scale and direct from the cultivator. The late Pandit Govind Vallabh Pant was the Chief Minister. I refer to you one case. Pantji was almost compelled to appoint a committee of two to look into the complaints which he had received from one district. He appointed me as one of the members—a commissioner and myself. We went there, we went to the villages and we heard a lot of people, witnesses. I must say that things were really pretty bad. Of course you could coerce a tenant to give his share but it would have created, later on more or less a revolution if you continued to function in that way. It was impossible for the cultivator to have tolerated it for long. Therefore, it is not such an easy matter. How do you deal with this problem ? The peasant has to make his own contribution. They are our real assets. I am not talking in political terms. We have to deal with them as sympathetically as possible. In the matter of procurement we may have to devise other methods—again I do not know much. I shall have to look into that matter but we will have to deal with this matter, if necessary, at the level of mill, the rice mill or the flour mill—if we do not succeed in other ways.

Price support

It has been suggested and rightly so, that there should be price support for the cultivator. We should provide for it. It has been suggested by all Food Ministers. I remember Sri S. K. Patil having repeated it more than once. Sardar Swaran Singhji spoke about it and I know the present Food Minister has also these things in mind. It is essential the problem of price support to the cultivator. We cannot give up that idea at all. In fact, we will have to support it and encourage it. But side by side the producer, there is the consumer and for him there should be some kind of maximum price—floor and ceiling. You will have to look into it carefully, some kind of floor or ceiling or the maximum price, above which or beyond which the consumer will not have to pay. These are important elements of this problem. You will have to consider them carefully. If we can fix prices in this way then procurement should also be really not so difficult. However, as I said, doubts have been expressed in this regard but we will examine them carefully further and see what could be done if there is no proper response from the quarters, which are closely concerned.

I express my regret over the foodgrains not coming into the market and naturally our Food Minister was very anxious. He has been receiving letters from the State Chief Ministers and Food Ministers for supplying them with more rice, wheat, etc. He, along with his other colleagues in consultation with the Finance Minister, felt that we must go in for mports at the present moment in order to meet the existing situation. Although we felt that the response might not be good and yet he took courage and talked with the Ambassadors or others of some of the countries. The response has been quite satisfactory.

Assistance under PL-480

As you know, the U.S. Government has been giving substantial help to supply both wheat and rice under their PL-480 programme, which has been of the greatest value for us. In the availability of rice there were difficulties. The price of rice has kept rising. We approached the U.S. Government for further assistance. We have been assured that the United States Government will continue to support rice needs in India under PL-480 and expect to make available additional, substantial quantities from the harvest in August. This is a generous gesture, no doubt, and it will enable us to step up releases from the stocks which we already have with the confidence that they can be replenished later in the year.

RICE CONTROL LIFTED IN SOUTH ZONE

Sri Subramaniam told the Conference of Chief Ministers that the procurement and/or levy of rice in Andhra Pradesh and Madras would be stopped immediately. All restrictions on the movement of rice from Andhra and Madras to other States within the Southern Zone would also be removed.

FOODGRAINS TRADING CORPORATION

The Minister proposed the setting up of a Foodgrains Trading Corporation through which the Government would enter the foodgrains trade. He said the Corporation would not "dislocate existing trade channels ".

The Corporation would deal only in rice to begin with. It would function like any other commercial organization, take out a licence, buy from the producer at prices announced ahead of the season and sell to retailers at specified prices.

TECHNICAL AGENCY

Sri Subramaniam also proposed the setting up of a high level technical agency to determine a fair and economic producers' price and also a reasonable consumers' price for farm produce.

Another encouraging feature is that we have had an offer of supply from Pakistan. A Mission will be going to Pakistan in the next few days to negotiate mutually satisfactory terms for the purchase of rice. It is our hope that we shall be able to get a good supply from our neighbour without straining our foreign exchange position.

So we have at present a big quantity of foodgrains. Yet it should be replenished when it is allocated to different States. The trade should know that even today we can meet the situation by throwing foodgrains into the market. Yet we wanted it to be careful and it must be replenished immediately so that we do not get short of it later on. Therefore, our effort has been to get into touch with some countries and I am glad that both the United States of America and Pakistan have responded so well and so promptly. There should be now no feeling of shortage in the country and when there is a scare, well, further complications arise. So, I very much like that the whole country should know that we can meet this situation at present without any difficulty. There will be no shortage and I think the prices will also be stabilised. However, when we get this assistance, we cannot afford to become complacent. Therefore, as I said, we must have a buffer stock in order to tide over any special crisis. Besides that, for sometime to come, we will have to meet the needs of the bigger cities of our country, Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, Kanpur and other places and States like Kerala or Kashmir, which are deficit. About the deficit part of it, well, I may have to talk to the Chief Ministers concerned but it is important that we should not go to sleep as soon as we find that we have been able to tide our present difficulties. So it has to be a long-term measure and we must concentrate on it.

Planning generated confidence

Our plans are of the highest importance. In fact the first Five-Year Plan, and later on other Plans, have generated a new confidence in the country as a whole. There might be criticisms here and there ; there may be loopholes also. But by and large, the Planning Commission has indeed done a very good job. It used to get the necessary lead and inspiration from Panditji. They will now have to deal with a much smaller man, but I do want to take the fullest advantage of the Planning Commission. It is essential that they should give us the necessary advice and guidance.

The Fourth Plan is now under preparation and it, therefore, becomes very important as to what our objective should be ; what new orientation should be given to the Plan. Therefore I feel I might say a few words and I might tell you that I had a talk with the Planning Commission recently.

Basic needs

I have not fully discussed with them but I did tell them that food, clothing and shelter are the basic needs of the people to give them relief from poverty and unemployment. All our efforts must be so directed that within a given period of time—it may be ten years or it may be more—we should be in a position where we can satisfy these basic requirements of all our people.

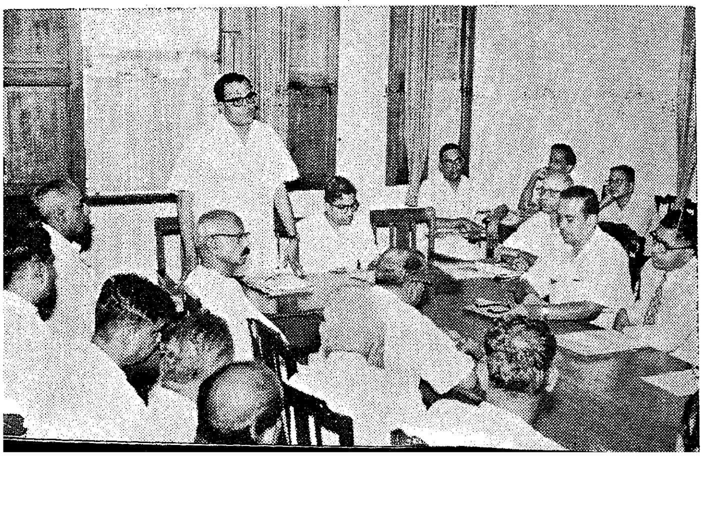
I do not mean that there should be any diversion from building up our basic industries. Indeed, without these we can hardly hope to fulfil the needs, wants of our people. But we must lay emphasis on the smaller programmes which give quicker results and cover a large number of people. Even more important is quicker and more efficient implementation. We pride ourselves as being public men and we know what hurts the public.

To the extent that we shall be able to provide food, clothing and shelter to all our people and give them relief from poverty and unemployment, to that extent will our planning be a success. To the attainment of this objective, I do not want to spare any effort and I know one and all of you feel exactly the same.

May I also appeal to the Chief Ministers and other Ministers of the States that we want their fullest co-operation and we do not want to exhort too much because it is mainly their responsibility to implement all the projects and the schemes. So we have to realise your own problems and your own difficulties.

I have every hope that the co-operation will be coming in abundant measure and we will not only be able to tide over our present difficulties, but we may be in a position very soon to take up the steps and measures which would in the long run solve our food problem and almost make our country self-sufficient.

Sri N. S. S. Manradiar speaking at the Southern States Food Ministers' meeting held recently in Madras



PRICE CONTROL

The rising price level has become a major national problem in recent months. Just before he assumed office as Prime Minister, Sri Lal Bahadur Shastri, declared that he would give the highest priority to its solution. During continuous consultations at party and Governmental levels since then, emphasis has been placed on the need to control the prices of foodgrains and curb the tendency of the wholesale and retail trade to hold back stocks and profit by situations of temporary shortage in supplies. Opinion will differ as to the extent to which this evil is prevalent and the actual conditions perhaps vary widely from State to State. But several bad cases of profiteering and cornerings have come to light in recent weeks, strengthening the demand for increasing State control or participation in the foodgrains trade.

State intervention in food distribution is not indeed a new idea. Internal procurement, centralized imports and rationing were introduced during the last war and lasted until 1953. Even today the Government operates large buffer stocks of imported American wheat and rice and distributes them through fair price shops. But there have been insistent demands for an extension of State trading in foodgrains so that the Government can in time occupy a commanding position in relation to the private wholesale and retail trade to control its profiteering and speculative activities.

The Chief Ministers' Conference that has just ended was expected to provide a consensus on the specific methods by which State control of the trade in and supply of foodgrains could be made realistic and effective. The discussions helped to underline the seriousness of the price problem. As the Prime Minister pointed out, wholesale prices are at the highest level now and the seasonally lean months immediately ahead usually aggravate the rising tendency in prices, especially when transport of grain is hampered by rain and floods. Food articles are now nearly 13 per cent dearer than a year ago; cereal prices in particular are 16 per cent higher. Besides the distress caused to the people, especially the vulnerable sections, uncontrolled price increases will defeat the objective of economic stability which is an integral part of our development planning.

While realizing the importance of finding a speedy solution to this problem, the Chief Ministers' Conference has wisely refrained from supporting some panicky and doctrinaire remedies advocated in certain quarters. Faced with a challenging situation, Sri C. Subramaniam, the new Food Minister, has announced some bold measures which would facilitate free and normal trade movements of foodgrains to the main deficit areas. The Government has also announced a programme of larger imports of rice from the U.S.A. and neighbouring countries.

Meanwhile, it proposes to strengthen its existing control over the foodgrains trade, under the system of licensing of grain dealers introduced earlier this year, without hampering their normal and legitimate activities. Even the proposed State-owned Foodgrains Trading Corporation to be set up in response to the demands for some form of State trading, is expected to supplement, not dislocate or replace the existing channels of trade. The primary objective is to acquire for it a commanding position, not a monopoly; similarly the Government has judiciously combined a practical approach with concession to ideological pressure by announcing that instead of taking over old and worn-out rice mills, as is often advocated, it would instal efficient mills and run them.

A.I.R.

PLASTIC WAREHOUSE TO STORE FOODGRAINS

A new experiment in the storage of foodgrains is to be tried in India soon with British collaboration. This is part of the Government's endeavour to eliminate wastage of foodgrains due to damage in warehouses.

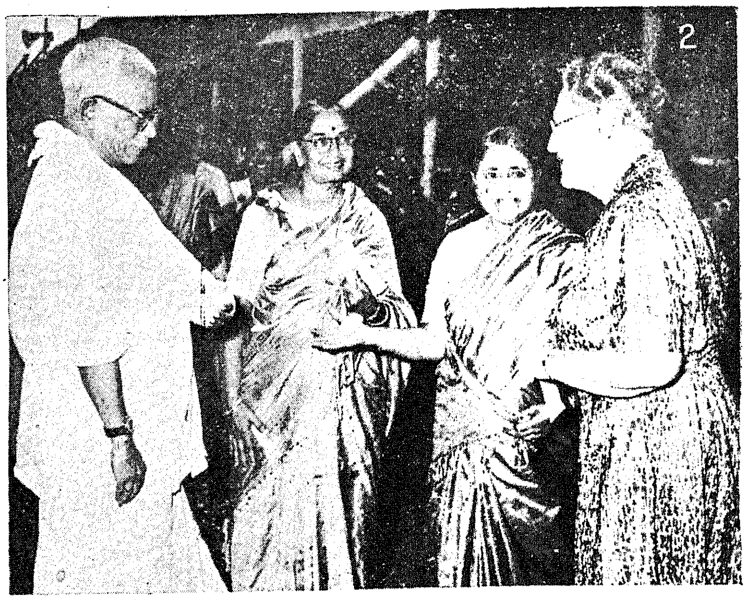
The Food Ministry has secured a plastic " air warehouse " from Britain for storing foodgrains. The greatest advantage of the new technique is that the " air warehouse " can be put anywhere and grains stored in. It will also stand longer storage than the conventional warehouse. The balloon is rat-free and proof against damage by infestation or moisture. Another merit of the plastic warehouse is that grain can be stored in it in bulk without the need of bags.

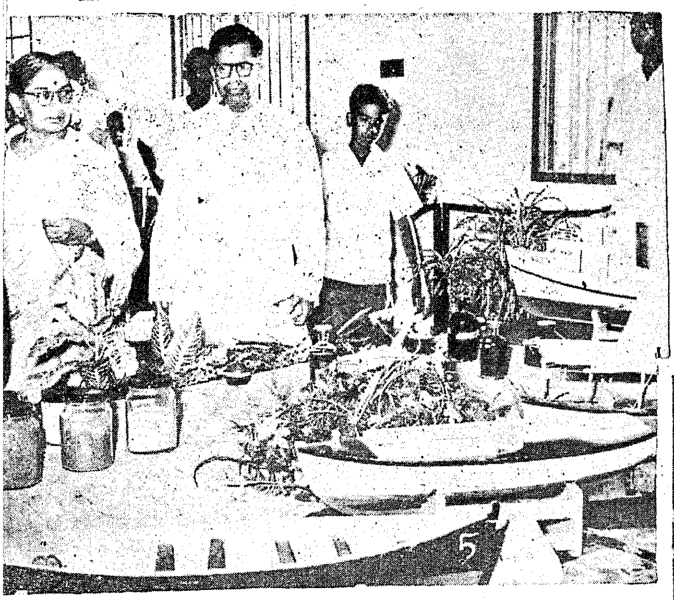
The Ministry of Food is understood to have tested the use of the balloon and found it satisfactory. A plastic warhouse will be shortly installed in New Delhi, to start with. If the experiment is found successful it is expected to be introduced in other places.

It is the first time that an " air warehouse " is being installed in India.

(A Press Report).

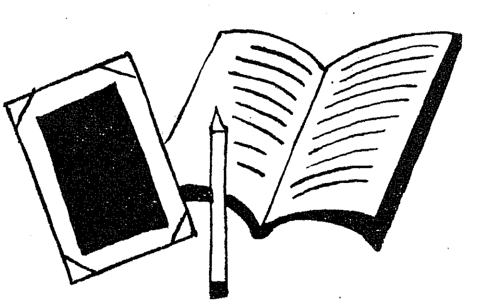
Queen Mary's celebrates Golden Jubilee





1 Sri K. Kamaraj at the celebration
2 Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam in conversation with Miss De La Hey, founder Principal of the College
3 The President with the founder Principal
4 Dr. S. Radhakrishnan pressing a button to unveil the foundation plaque of Golden Jubilee Hall on 14th July 1964
5 Sri C. Subramaniam with the present Principal of the College
6 The President talking with a girl N.C.C. Cadet of the College

MADRAS LEADS IN THE FIELD OF *Education*



Sri M. C. CHAGLA,
Union Education Minister

Madras State has made considerable progress in the field of education. Its achievement of sending 6—11 age-group children to school, its lead in the field of providing text books and its triple benefit scheme for teachers all these show the way for other States to follow. Sri Chagla, Union Minister for Education while addressing the States Education Ministers' Conference held in New Delhi recently paid tributes to the achievements of Madras in the field of Education.

When I talk of a national system of education I do not mean uniformity. India is proud of the differences that exist in the country, but she is equally proud of the synthesis which we have made out of these differences. If ever there was synthesis necessary, it is in the sphere of education. And what I want to appeal to you is to try at this Conference to bring about such a synthesis. What I mean when I talk of a national system of education is education which emphasise the unity of our Country. By national system of education I mean mobility of students and teachers. We will never have a real national system of education unless there is mobility of students and teachers. By national system of education I also mean the quality of education. Quality can only be emphasised on an All-India basis. Our best institutions could be such that they will permit favourably of any international standards.

Regional Languages

While giving the fullest emphasis on regional languages, and on Hindi, we must realize that in the present context great importance must be attached to the study of Science and the study of languages. I am fully conscious of the wealth of our Indian languages, the cultural enshrines in these languages and it is the duty of the Ministry of Education to encourage these Indian languages. I am also conscious of the fact that Hindi is declared to be the official language by the Constitution and the Ministry must do anything to help Hindi. Let us not forget the importance that must be attached to the study of English and to the study of Science. This is not from what I understand is to be national system of education. And the next question is how do we achieve this. We are faced straightaway with the problem. Education is a State subject and I am not so ambitious as to expect this conference representing the different States immediately to agree that education should be made a concurrent subject. But we have to realize the historical background to education being a State subject.

All-India Education Service

There are many things we can do which will bring about a national policy with regard to education. And the first point I wish to mention is the All-India Education Service. I am very glad that most States have agreed to this Service in principle. We have not yet recieved from them the particulars we require as to which of the educational posts they want to place in the education cadre. I hope this answer will not be long delayed and I wish to make a start as soon as possible.

Financing Education

The other point which I would like to make is the financing of education. Under the Third Five-Year Plan, Centre gave a block grant to the States without

Sri G. Bhuvarahan (I. & P.) Minister presided over the Annual Conference of Madras Government Press Workers' Union held on 10th July 1964

earmarking that grant for any specific purpose. The result was two-fold. First there was no obligation on the State to spend the grant received from the Centre on any particular project, and the second, I am sorry to say in cases of some States, money intended for education is diverted to other projects where they consider it more pressing. In my opinion, this aspect of financing education must be radically altered if we are going to advance on the educational sector, as we want to.

I suggest for your consideration two important modifications. One is that whatever grants the Centre gives to the States must be earmarked. The other modification I suggest is that we must have a tremendous expansion of Centrally sponsored sectors. The Centre must select certain sectors in education which it will finance itself. I must confess that the schemes of matching grants has been a failure. Therefore, I think the time has come when we must devise something more rational than the matching grant system which we adopted in the Third Five-Year Plan. My suggestion is that the Union Ministry should select certain sectors in education which will emphasise quality. We have made a tremendous expansion, we have passed our targets in primary education, the enrolment of students. The time has come when we should think of consolidation and quality and I think the Union Government must pick out selected sectors for purposes of improving quality.

Elementary Education

I first turn to Elementary education. You know the constitutional directive and we are afraid that the constitutional directive will not be achieved till about 1980 and we would achieve this objective only if we work very hard. On the whole, the enrolment in primary schools, is satisfactory, except for the enrolment of girls. Here I would like to make a suggestion. In schools where a boy has to spend the whole time, there is a tendency not to go at all. If you let him earn his living and give him education either in the morning or in the evening, not during hours when he is working, it will be possible for him to attend educational institutions. Now with the tremendous expansion in elementary and primary education inevitably quality has suffered, but I agree that as far as that sector of education is concerned, the primary importance is numbers. We must put all boys and girls of the school-going age into schools but we must also think about quality and here I wish to emphasise the great necessity of parents taking interest in primary education. I think the *State of Madras gives the finest example* of what can be achieved in that direction and I would beg of the Education Ministers of different States to look at the scheme which Madras has worked out and implemented with great success.

Turning to Secondary education, I think that is the most vital sector today in our education. If you want the standards of University education, to go up, you must improve the quality of Secondary education. After all it is a secondary education that feeds the colleges. Therefore the first thing we have to do is to have a crash programme for the training of teachers. We must have better libraries in our secondary schools.

I have received serious complaints about text-books from many States. The complaints are that they are too expensive, that they are not available, they are produced too late and the result has been in some States printing and distribution of spurious text-books which is a terrible thought that such text-books should fall into the hands of the boys and girls in the schools. I am glad to note that two States—Bihar and Madras—have decided to set up autonomous bodies which will deal with the publication and distribution of text-books.

We have set up at Delhi a body of experts and they are preparing text-books on a national basis and these text-books will be sent to the different States and we hope that the States will translate these into regional languages and make use of them. Apart from preparing text-books on a national basis, we are also preparing cheap text-books for Universities in colloboration with the United Kingdom and United States and I am sure that this will go ahead on a very large scale and help our students to get the text-books cheap.

Bound with the question of text-books is curricula. It is essential that we should give constant thought to the improvement of text-books and curricula which we are doing in Delhi by our Council of Educational Research and Training.

I should like to set a target before you in secondary education. That at least one school in every community block should be developed as a quality school, *i.e.*, as a model school.

Diversification of education

I was looking at the figures that in India only 12 per cent of the students who go to secondary schools take to vocational course. In other countries 60 to 70 per cent take to vocational course. India comes almost last. Now this is wrong. How do we change this? There are two ways of doing it. We must give our secondary schools a vocational bias. I am of the view that in secondary schools there should be a vocational bias in every school. I am anxious in order to have a Secondary Education Commission on the lines of a University Grants Commission which has done so wonderfully well under the chairmanship of my friend Dr. Kothari. But even if we cannot have a Secondary

Education Commission in a formal way, there is no reason why we cannot finance Secondary education in certain sponsored sectors.

Uniform pattern

Then I should like to say a word about the uniform pattern of secondary education. May I make one appeal that even if you have differences in different States, let us at least agree on the content of higher secondary education. That is what really matters.

Then I should like to make a note of warning with regard to new universities. I am constantly getting letters from States suggesting new universities and I am sorry to note that it is not in the interest of higher education to go on multiplying universities. It is rather better to strengthen and improve the universities we already have. It is better even to expand universities where expansion is possible.

Then I would like to make one word about adult literacy. We have lagged far behind in the removal of adult illiteracy. We must do something in this direction immediately. Here again my view is you will never be able to fight adult illiteracy unless you have co-operation of the people. It must become a popular movement.

With regard to teacher training, as I said, we want to have a crash programme. We want to set up more teacher training institutions. We should have more part-time classes. I attach the greatest importance to correspondence courses. May I say one word about teachers. It is very necessary that all teachers should get the same remuneration whether they belong to private schools, privately managed schools whether they are employed by local authorities or whether they are employed by State Governments. Same thing applies to old age benefits. All teachers should get the same old age benefits and similar conditions of service.

Triple Benefit Scheme

Here again the Madras State has given the lead with its triple benefit scheme and as far as Delhi is concerned. I hope to introduce a legislation in the next session, of Parliament which will put teachers of private institutions and public institutions on the same level as far as salaries, old age benefits, security of service is concerned. I suggest State Education Ministers should undertake similar legislations in their own States. It should be done by legislation.

Finally I come to the question of implementation. We meet in these conferences, we make speeches and we pass resolutions. I sincerely hope that we should go back to our States and should not forget about all that. I think it is not essential to pass resolutions which we are not determined to implement. We must also set up a proper machinery for implementation.

National Education Commission

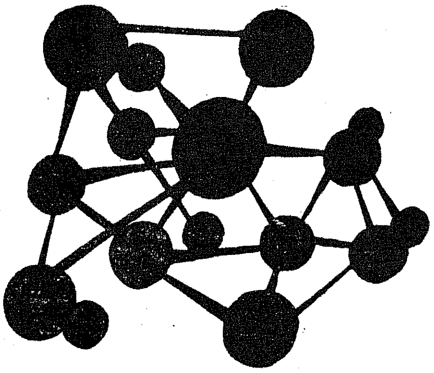
The Government of India had recently appointed a 16-member Education Commission to survey the entire field of educational development and to review the country's educational system.

The Commission will be headed by Dr. D. S. Kothari, Chairman of the University Grants Commission and will include five eminent educationists from abroad. It has been asked to advise the Government on the general pattern of education and on the general principles and policies for the development of education at all Stages and in all its aspects.

The Commission will also have in the first instance four consultants of iternational repute. More foreign consultants are likely to be associated with its work latter.

The final report is to be submitted by March 1966. Where immidiate implementation of certain programmes is nessary, the Commission may submit interim report.

TRAINING OF SCIENTIFIC PERSONNEL IN MADRAS



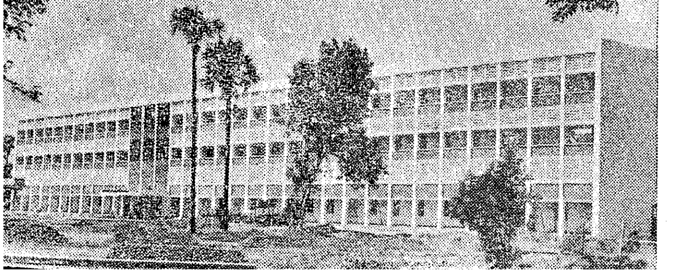
The first convocation of the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, was held on July 13, 1964 over which the President presided. Over 100 scientists including a few Post-Graduate scholars took their Degrees on the occasion. This Institute is one of the five higher technical institutions set up on a regional basis to meet the post-war requirements of scientific personnel in India.

With graduation of over 100 scientists including post-graduate scholars, at the first convocation over which the President presided on July 13, 1964, the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, will have reached an important landmark in its rapid growth. From July 30, 1959 to almost the same date this year, it is not a far cry in the growth of an institution which has been conceived with a future of infinite scope and possibility.

The Institute

It was on July 30, 1959, that the Institute of Technology at Madras was inaugurated in the open field between the A.C. College and the Central Leather Research Institute by Prof. Humayun Kabir, the then Minister of Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs. Today, within the period of just five years, the one time jungle opposite this founding site has given way to an academic settlement in a wooded campus, and a new city has grown up, a city, in the words of the Minister, " dedicated to the pursuit of knowledge, dedicated to the development of science and technology."

The Electrical Sciences Building at the Indian Institute of Technology, Guindy, near Madras



The Indian Institute of Technology at Madras is one of the five higher technological institutions, set up on a regional basis, to meet the post-war requirements of scientific personnel in India and to provide " the highest type of education in science and technology." During the visit of the late Prime Minister Sri Nehru to West Germany, in 1956, the Federal Government offered technical assistance in setting up of an institute of this kind, and the offer was accepted. Soon a German Technical Mission visited India in October the same year, and step by step the blueprint of the Institute took shape until its formal opening in 1959, and the laying of the foundation stone on its present site in Adyar by Dr. Heinrich Luebke, President of Federal Republic of Germany, on December 3, 1962. During the early days, the Institute was housed temporarily in the A. C. College of Technology and the Central Leather Research Institute. This 630-acre site offered by the Government of Madras is ideally situtated in sylvan surroundings, " not too far from the city to be cut off nor too near to the centre of the city to be cramped." The Guindy Engineering College, the Highways Research Station, the A. C. College of Technology and the Central Leather Research Institute are in very close proximity to the Institute and together all these should one day form the biggest technological campus in South India.

The Indo-German Agreement signed in August 1958, at Bonn for the establishment of this Institute provides for—

(i) Twenty German Professors/Specialists and five German Foremen for teaching/training ;

(ii) Supply of scientific and technical equipment costing about Rs. 180 lakhs ; and

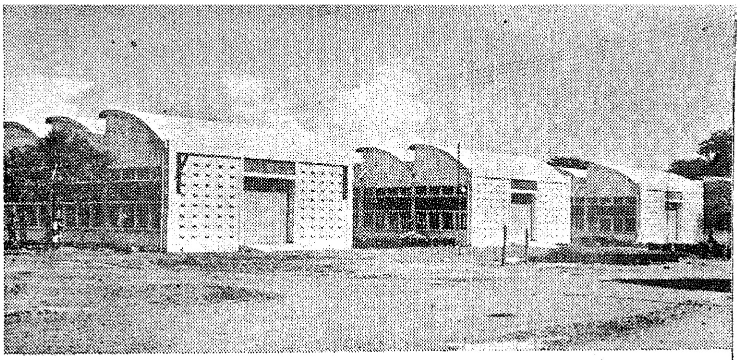
(iii) facilities for training of 20 Indian teachers in German Technical Universities in specialised subjects. At present there are five German Foremen, eight German Professors and twelve Indian Professors at the highest level; also each German Professor has with him an Indian understudy who will be in a position to take over when the visiting Professor leaves.

The Institute which was originally registered as a society, has since been declared an " Institute of national importance " by an Act of Parliament in 1961. It offers facilities for undergraduate training and for advanced post-graduate studies and research in Civil, Chemical, Electrical, Mechanical and Metallurgical Engineering. Besides these technical departments, there are five supporting branches of study, namely, Humanities, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Applied Mechanics. The Institute admits 300 students per year to the undergraduate classes for the five-year integrated courses which would mean 1,500 students over five years, and 500 students at the post-graduate level for M. Sc., Ph.D., Post-doctoral and research work.

Target and progress

According to the plan of expansion, the Institute, when fully developed, will have a student population of 1,500 undergraduates and 500 post-graduates and research workers. It will be fully a residential institution, as far as the students and academic staff are concerned. The Institute will have about 8 lakhs square feet area for instructional buildings, ten hostel blocks to accommodate 2,000 students, one hostel for staff and about 1,100 staff quarters. This township with an estimated ultimate population of about 10,000 will be complete in all respects, with its own schools, post office, bank, marketing centre, hospital and health centre, services such as water, electricity, drainage and sanitation, roads and pathways, internal transport, internal communications and a community centre. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 937·69 lakhs.

The construction work is going apace according to schedule, and all the instructional buildings have been completed, leaving only the Administrative building and the Library to be completed during the Fourth Plan period. One of the notable structures in the Institute and landmark in the campus is the open-air theatre, designed after the Greek stadium and Roman amphitheatre, with a seating capacity of about 5,500. It



The workshops at the Indian Institute of Technology, Guindy, near Madras

has big stage, an underground dressing room and a central arena of nearly 10,000 square feet for group acting, folk items, acrobatics, and games like basket ball, volley ball, etc.

Special features

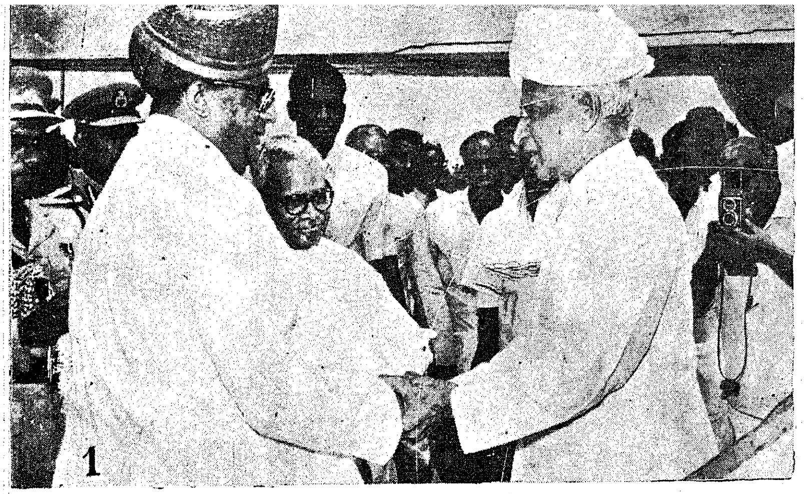
On the academic side, though the Institute was the third to be started, it had the advantage of starting straightway with the five-year integrated course, which has since become the pattern of engineering education in the country. The students here would alternately attend theoretical and workshop lessons under the " sandwich system ", which would give them that re-orientation which sometimes had to be secured after leaving the Institute by actually working in industries.

Another important feature is the additional stress on the mechanical sciences in this Institute. With a pronounced bias for mechanical sciences which characterises German scientific study, the focus naturally is in this direction. So also in the field of Instrumentation and Instrument Technology, in which West Germany has made great advance, the Institute will soon provide special facilities. An Instrument Technology laboratory with equipment from West Germany is taking shape and should soon be ready.

The aim to be served by the Institute, observed, the President of the Federal Republic of Germany when laying the foundation stone, could be described " most succintly in the words of the great lodestar of Indian Youths Mahatma Gandhi, 'Knowledge will be the common property of the people'. With German scholarship, famous for its high standard, and the proverbial German thoroughness and attention to details harnessed together with the Indian imaginative and speculative genius, the Indian Institute of Technology at Madras expects the early fulfilment of its dream not only to bring knowledge—scientific and technological—within the easy reach of man, but also to make science subserve man in the cause of peace and progress.

President's visit to Madras and to his home town

1 Governor of Madras receiving President at the airport
2 The President handing over degree to a student of I.I.T.
3 & 6 Dr. Radhakrishnan decla open Swami Vivekananda Statu 12th July 1964 at the Marina
4 & 5 The President releasing the graphy of Sri M. Bhaktavatsal Chief Minister
7 & 8 Dr. S. Radhakrishnan in his ho town, Tiruttani
9 The President at Tirupathi.
10 President replies to the civic addı at Pondicherry
11 Opening of the Dhanvant Medical College at Pondicherry 13th July 1964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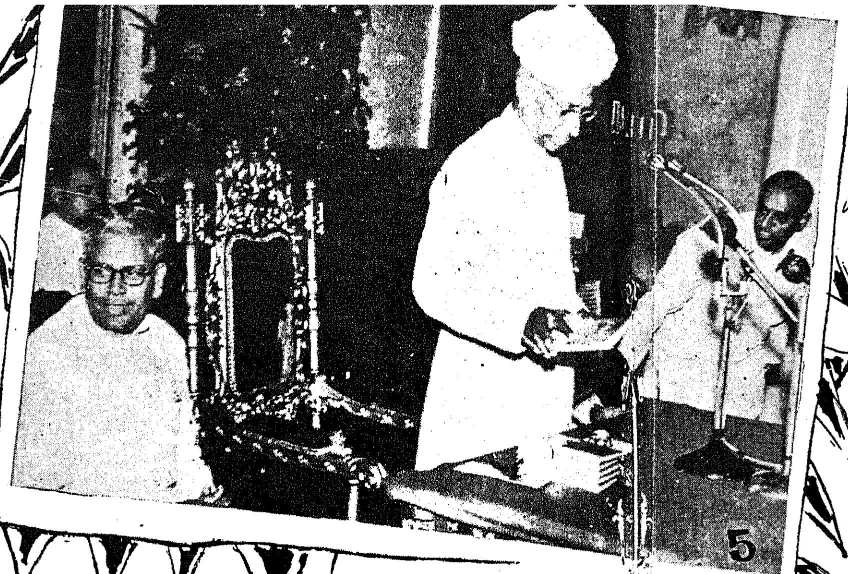
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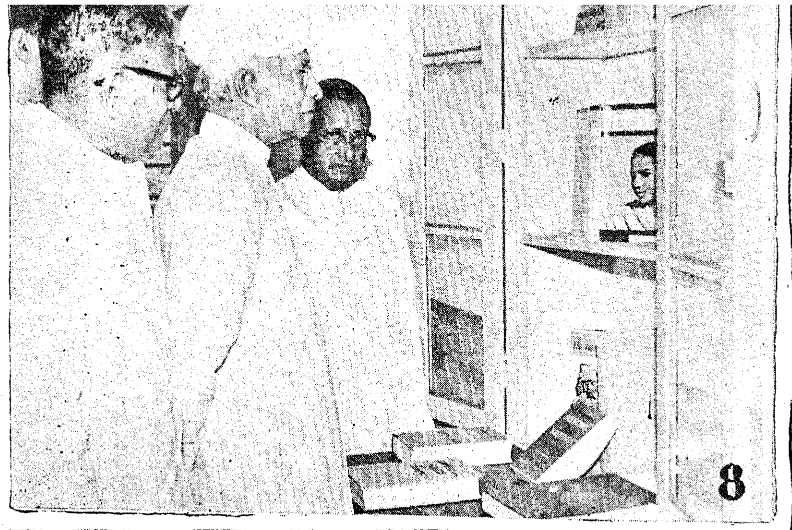
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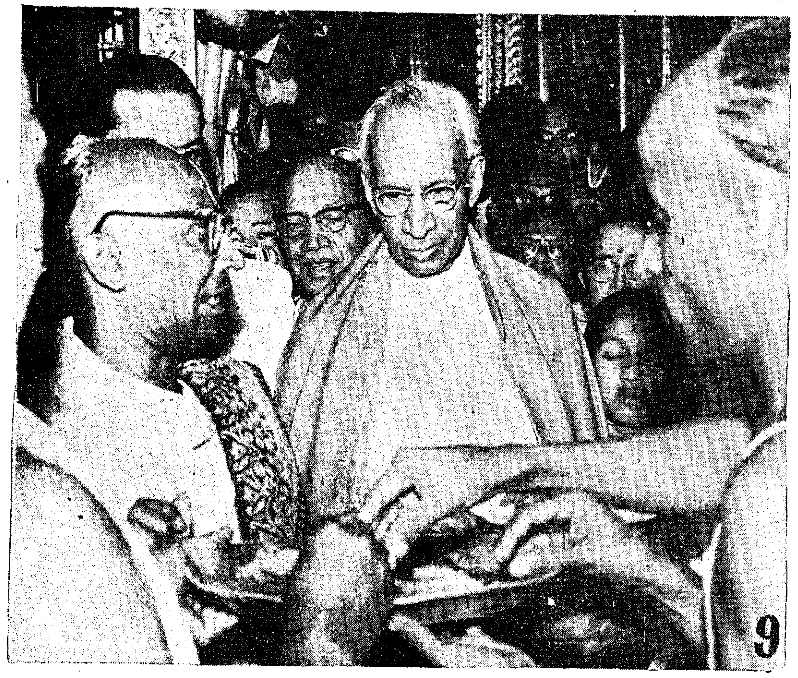
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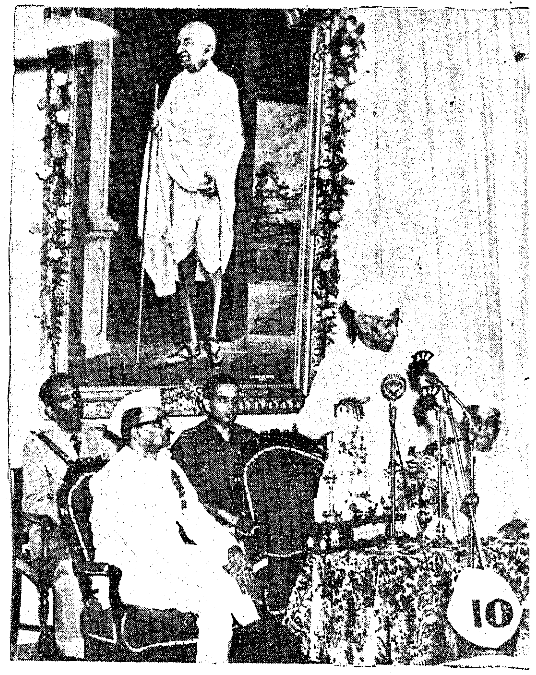
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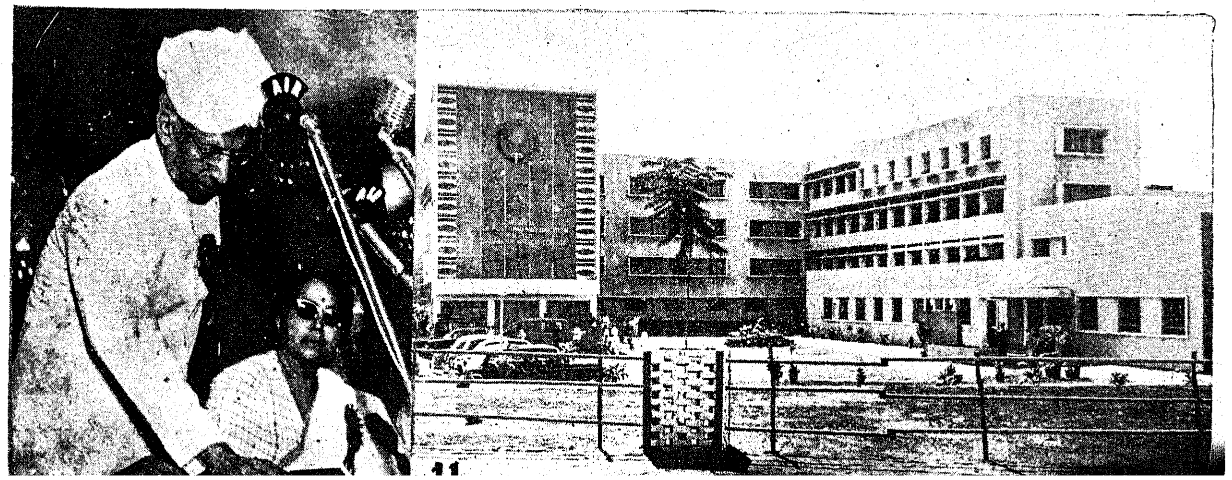
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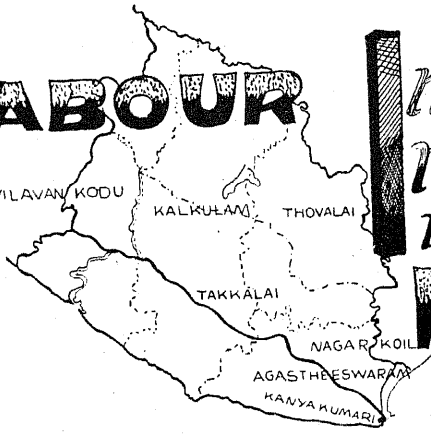
LABOUR Intensive Industries in KANYAKUMARI



Dr. A. RAMASWAMI, M.A., M.LITT., *Ph. D.* (*Lond.*),
State Editor, District Gazetteers, Madras.

The Kanyakamari district at the extreme south of the State is the smallest but the most densely populated district. Problems such as high birth rate, unemployment, small holdings and low wages, are traceable in this district. However, quite imperceptibly, the labour intensive processes have been on the march in the district. The handloom industry, the palmyra fibre industry and the casheunut industry are but significant achievements of those processes. Though the district lacks in minerals, it has other resources like forest produce and stone quarries which map well provide the bases for the further promotion of labour-intensive industries.

This small district of (1,665 Sq. Kms. or 643 Sq. Miles) consisting of the four taluks of Agasteeswaram, Thovalai, Kalkulam and Vilavancode has a total population of 996,915 persons, which gives on an average 1,550 persons per square mile. The relatively high density of population in the district may further be seen from the fact that while the density of population of the entire State is only about 670 persons per square mile, the corresponding district figure is nearly double the State average.

Population density

In the course of the last sixty years, the population of the area now constituting the Kanyakumari district has more than doubled itself. During this period the net addition to the total district population has been 637,667 persons, registering an increase of 177·50 per cent over the population in 1901. Generally there has been a steady increase in the population of the district over the decennial periods. The Kanyakumari district is one among the four districts in the State which recorded an increase in population of over 15 per cent during the last decade, 1951–61. During that decade, the district registered an increase of about 20·6 per cent in population while the corresponding figure for the State as a whole was only 11·9 per cent. The urban population of the district has also been growing considerably. This tendency has been very much marked in Nagercoil, the district headquarters which has crossed the one lakh mark in the Census of 1961.

The district is, no doubt, predominantly Agricultural. Almost the entire area suitable for paddy cultivation has been brought under the plough. Though increase in agricultural production can be achieved by the adoption of intensive cultivation methods, it may not effectively solve the problems of unemployment and under-employment.

Major industries

Among the manufacturing establishments in the district only a very few units can be considered as typically large-scale units. The Travancore Minerals, Limited, Manavalakurichi and the Nagammal Textiles, Nagercoil, are the two of the leading large scale industries in the district. The former employs about 347 persons and the latter about 376 persons. Besides, these, the salt industry is concentrated on the coast line of 17 miles between Colachel in the North and Kanyakumari in the South. There are 10 salt factories in the district and the gross area of the factories is 1,393·34 acres of land. The salt industry is well advanced in the district and its employment potential is also fairly high in the coastal villges of Agasteeswaram and Kalkulam taluks.

The cashewnut industry has come into prominence in recent years. There are a few cashewnut factories like the National Nut Company, Pallugal and the Vijayalakshmi Cashewnut Industries, Palavilai, in the district. The former provides employment for abous 400 workers daily and the latter for about 790 workers

daily. There are also five plantation factories in the district, at Devagiri, Mahendragiri, Corimony, Woodlands and Balamore engaged in the manufacture of finished tea. These factories in all provide employment for about 500 persons. The cultivation of rubber and the manufacture of sole crepe, rubber sheets and latex is also a growing industry in the district in recent times.

Small-Scale and Cottage Industries

With the rapid growth of population and in the absence of large-scale industries, emphasis has necessarily been laid in the district on the development of small-scale and cottage industries. The conditions prevailing in the district also present ample scope for the growth of small-scale and cottage industries, like the manufacture of coir, soap, palm gur, pottery, rubber products, etc.

The problem of unemployment and under-employment, however, dominates the economic scene of the district due to overpopulation and lack of varied avenues of employment. The recent census figures also indicate the high burden of dependency in the district According to the figures out of every hundred of the population, 65 are non-workers.

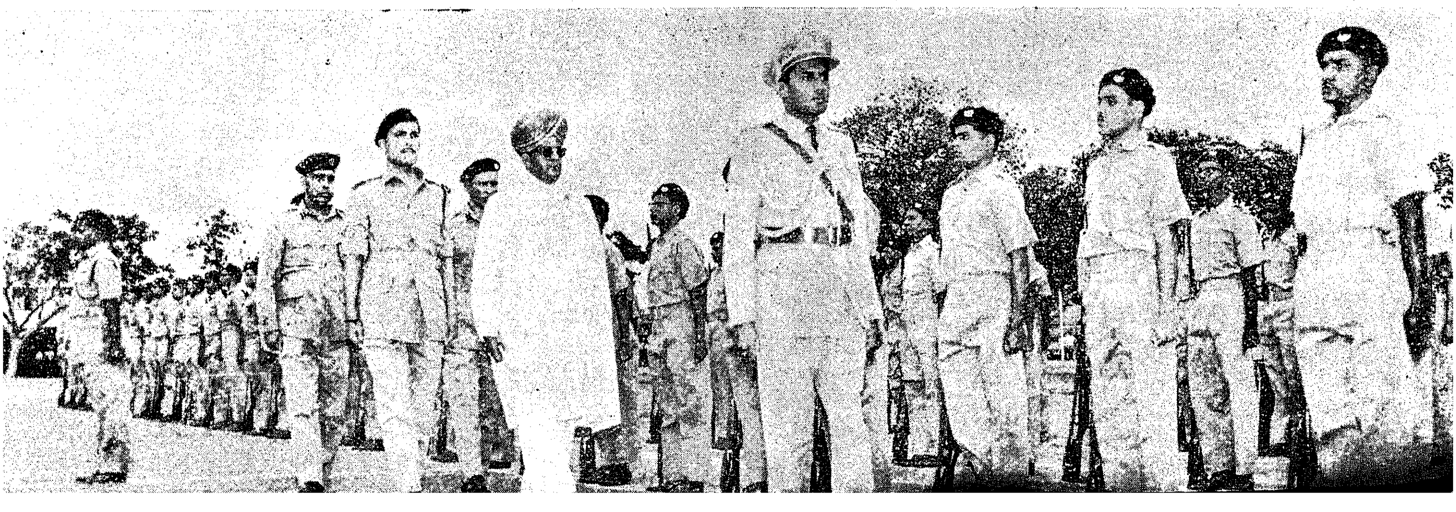
The All-India Agricultural Labour Enquiry conducted by the Ministry of Labour, Government of India, in 1950–51, had also revealed that in the Travancore-Cochin region, in which the Kanyakumari district area originally lay, for every 100 earners about 10 persons were unemployed and that on an average an adult male worker was not able to find work for 108 days in a year. The unemployment was mainly due to want of work which accounted for 72 days out of the 108 days unemployed. Pointing to this grave problem, the *Agrarian Problem Enquiry Committee (Cochin)*, 1949, had observed that more than low wages, it was the impossibility of finding work in the off-season that was the cause of distress among the agricultural labour. The need for labour-intensive occupations in agricultural regions as a necessary solution for the off-season unemployment, therefore, needs no emphasis.

Labour intensive process

The cashewnut industry in the district exhibits in a short compass the application of labour intensive process of production, a direct outcome of the availability of abundant labour in the area. The majority of the workers in this industry are women and children between 10 and 13 years of age. They are paid on piece-rate basis and they earn every day during the period when employment is available, wages ranging from 50 nP. to Rs. 1·50 nP. These factories, depend considerably on cashewnuts imported from East Africa. The processes connected with the preparation of cashewnut such as roasting, shelling and the removal of the reddish brown coat and grading are localised here mainly with a view to take advantage of the cheap labour available in this district. The manufacture of industrial cloth carried on in the Kerala State is dependent on the special handloom cloth manufactured in the district. The cloth is transported to the Kerala State for further processing. The manufacture of the raw cloth was started here because of the cheapness of labour. Most of the workers engaged in this industry are women and they are paid about 42 nP. per metre of cloth woven. In Trivandrum and other parts of the Kerala State, the wages appear to be nearly double or even more compared to those prevalent in the district. The Kanyakumari district is also the largest producer of handloom cloth in the State. About one and a half lakhs of people earn their livelihood through this industry, which comes next only to agriculture.

The above facts lead us to one inevitable conclusion that there is a potential surplus of man-power in the district, but unfortunately there is a shortage of capital and technical know-how. There are also no raw materials in the district which can attract a few special industries.

The Governor visiting the Guard of honour at a ceremonial parade of the Home Guards held recently in Madras



There are now (1963) 99 *registered* factories in the district and they are able to provide employment for about 4·693 workers; and most of them are small-scale factories. The following table shows the important small-scale factories in the district :—

Name of the industry. (1)	*Number of registered small factories in the district.* (2)	*Approximate number of workers employed.* (3)
Rice Mills	32	252
Saw Mills and Carpentry Workshops.	13	176
Printing Presses	9	147
Engineering Workshops, Iron Works, Metal Industries.	6	82
Flour Mills	4	7
Match Factories	4	241
Rubber Factories	2	95
Oil Mills	2	10
Textile Mill	1	35
Paper Board and Straw Board Factory.	1	30
Tile Factory	1	51
Cotton Ginning	1	10

The following table shows the various kinds of village industries developed in the district and the approximate number of workers engaged in each of them;—

Name of the industry. (1)	*Number of workers (rough estimates 1963, exclusive of the figures of Thuckalay and Thiruvattar blocks).* (2)
Carpentry	2,773
Smithy	1,331
Tapping	1,055
Coir Industry ..	2,263
Oil Industry ..	1,223
Pottery	1,025
Bee-keeping ..	2,266
Lime-kiln work ..	708
Hand-pounding ..	653
Mat-weaving ..	6,843
Palm fibre	6,559
Lace and embroidery	2,051
Palm and leaf basket industry.	1,383
Aloe fibre	892
Jaggery-making ..	10,918
Brick	696
Spinning	6,460

The Bee-keeping industry, which engages over 2,000 persons, is a good example of a cottage industry which has developed in the district, where with minimum investment, maximum return may be achieved. The following *annual figures* relating to the industry in a development block of the district will illustrate the highly profitable nature of the industry:—

Number of bee-hives. (1)	*Number of bee-keepers.* (2)	*Total production.* (3)	*Value of honey.* (4)
		LB.	RS.
466	58	8,310	18,695

Bee-keeping is becoming a major cottage industry of the district. Hundreds of villagers are taking to bee-keeping. Roughly 14,000 bee-hives are maintained by the villagers in the district and they get about 8 to 12 pounds of honey per hive a year.

Khadi

Khadi industry is also carried on in the district as one of the major cottage industries. Paper-making and toy-making are the other important cottage industries of the district which can expand their production if wider markets are assured. A handmade paper unit is located at Kannankurichi. It has made good progress. Its prices are very favourable compared to the products of similar units in the country and it is able to get bulk orders even from distant places like West Bengal.

Stone-quarrying

Stone-quarrying is also an important industry in the district, from early times. There are huge granite rocks suitable for quarries in many places of the district such as Mylaudy and Kalkurichy. Palmyra fibre which is an important raw material for the brush industry is processed in the district. The processing units, which generally receive the raw material from the Tirunelveli district are located near Colachel. The industry comprises of a series of labour intensive processes. As this industry supplies the raw material (palmyrah bristles) which are exported, a plan for suitable expansion of the market will undoubtedly increase the employment opportunities, in the industry.

Screw-pine industry

Screw-pine industry is a thriving cottage industry of the district for which raw material is locally available. Screw-pine is a water plant with thorny leaves and it is commonly found to grow along the banks of tanks and other water courses throughout the district. There are two varieties of plants—one with short leaves and the other with long leaves. The leaves of the short variety are smooth and shiny and there is a wide market for the mats made out of the leaves.

The climate of the district is very favourable for the development of coconut plantations. There are natural back-water facilities and lagoons on the western coastal belt of the district from Kollencode to Kanyakumari. The coir industry has grown well in the district due to the availability of raw material (coconut husk) and brackish water for curing of the fibres. There are roughly 10,000 families with about 50,000 persons depending on this industry.

Mat-making

The making of mats from palmyra leaves and *korai* grass is another important cottage industry of the district, for which raw materials are locally available and which provides employment to quite a number of people. The articles such as mats, fans and baskets produced out of palmyra leaves are not only attractive but also very useful for household purposes.

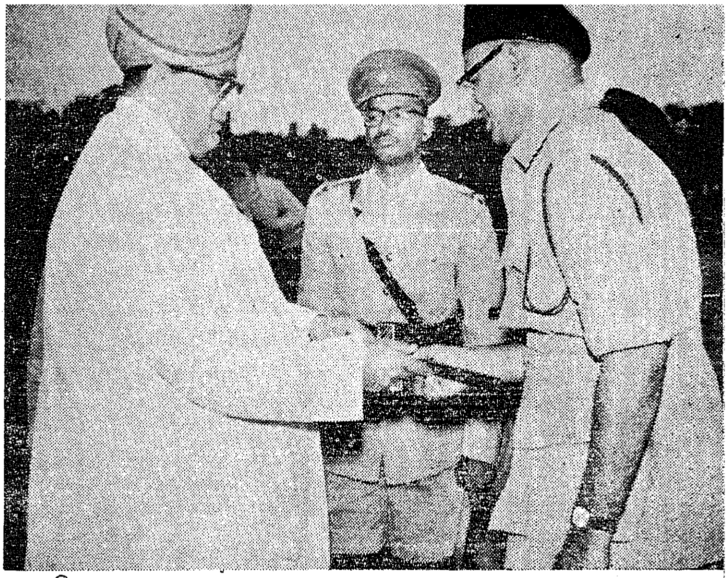
Some suggestions

It has been already pointed out that this district has a very equable climate and luxuriant forest vegetation as a direct benefit from the monsoons. The district has already made some advance in the processing of soft-wood for splinters and boxes for many industrial units of the State which produce safety matches. With the available raw materials and abundant labour force, this industry may be expected to show significant progress, if enlightened entrepreneurship guides the development of the safety match industry in this district.

Carpentry and wood-carving thrive in this district. Expert craftsmanship is not wanting. One striking feature about the house construction in this district is the plentiful use of timber. These valuable advantages may well be harnessed for developing carpentry and wood-carving as cottage industries, so that they may supply not only the requirements of the district but also cater to a wider market. The toy-making industry for which the district has shown great promise in the past can be further developed with advantage.

Market for coconuts

Desiccated coconuts have been a delicacy in the West. Ceylon has made significant advance in this valuable industry and has captured the foreign markets. There is nothing that precludes the Kanyakumari district from developing itself into a most advantageous exporter of desiccated coconuts. The cheap labour, the availability of raw material, and the established lines of trade in connection with the coir industry, will all place the district in an advantageous position.



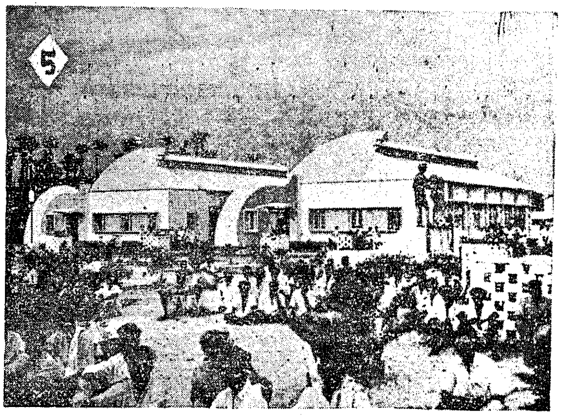
The Governor distributed batons to the Divisional Commandants of the Home Guards at a ceremonial parade held recently in Madras

But, by far the most important industry that can be further developed may be stone-quarrying. The rough rocks and boulders strewn all over the district, no doubt, add to the panoramic view of the district. But these rough rocks if sized to meet the common requirements of man, such as road-metals, construction stones, etc., will create additional employment for the over-populated region. The great strides made in recent years in the techniques for splitting the rocks and sizing them will enable the district to develop into a very important supplier of road metals for the regions around.

The promotion of cottage and small-scale industries has been generally recommended as a method of improving the economic conditions in over-populated and backward regions. The Industrial Policy Resolution of 1956 has assessed the benefits of cottage, village and small-scale industries in the following words: " They provide immediate large scale-employment ; they offer a method of ensuring a more equitable distribution of the national income and they facilitate an effective mobilization of resources of capital and skill which might otherwise remain, unutilized. Some of the problems that unplanned urbanization tends to create will be avoided by the establishment of small centres of industrial production all over the country ". In over-populated and under-developed areas it is not possible to provide employment for all, in private and public enterprises. Then the best method of solving unemployment problems in those regions will be to create increasing opportunities for self-employment. This may said to be the key-note of the policy in the democratic State. This policy is as important in a country under demographic pressure as it is in a democracy.

(Sri D. Natarajan, M.A., Compiler, Gazetter Unit, M.R.O., was very helpful to the author in the preparation of this article.)

An Industrial Estate FOR LEATHER



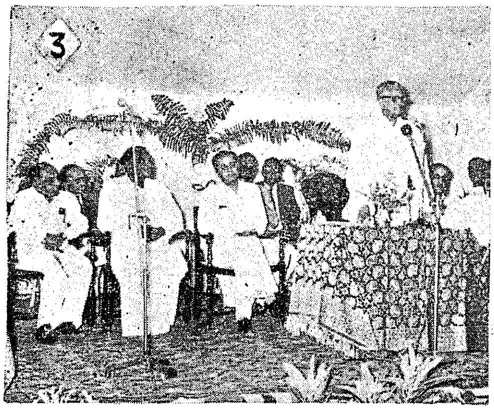
Sri R. Venkataraman, Minister of Industries inaugurated the Industrial Estate for Leather Goods at Madhavaram on July 2, 1964.

1 The Minister declared open the Estate by opening a Leather bag.

2 The Minister delivers the inaugural speech.

3 Inspecting some of the leather goods.

4 A view of the gathering with the Estate buildings in the rear



RANU

UNIT Trust Scheme

The Unit Trust Scheme recently inaugurated by Sri T. T. Krishnamachari, Union Minister for Finance, is a landmark in the Government of India investment policies. Unit Trusts have become very popular in many countries. Besides several other benefits, safety, steady return and liquidity are the triple benefits of the scheme. The scheme offers attractive investment to the citizens and also helps to mobilise the much needed capital. The attractive features of this scheme will certainly make it popular.

The Unit Trust has commenced operations from the 1st of July. In the last two decades, the Unit Trusts have become increasingly popular in advanced countries of the West and also in Japan and certain Latin American countries. They are popular because of their expert knowledge and efficient management. They are able to offer to the public, the facility of ready investment in a balanced portfolio of securities and shares. The average citizen, left to himself, may not be able to choose his investments so prudently. In our developing economy, the Unit Trust will serve a double purpose. It will offer secure and attractive investment to the citizens, and also mobilize capital so essential for our development.

Triple benefit

It has been announced that Units of Rs. 10 each in multiples of ten will be available from 1st July. The idea is to enable the middle class, including wage earners and persons whose savings are relatively small, to avail of the benefits of this investment. There will be no restriction on the number of units which may be held by any one person. Although the Trust is intended primarily to attract investments from individuals, there is no ban on firms and other institutions investing their funds in the units. Investment in units of the Trust ensures three advantages to the citizen, namely, safety, steady return and liquidity.

Investment policy

The Trust will not put all the eggs in one basket. It will distribute its investments in such a manner that either there is no risk, or the risk is minimum. Investment in any one company will not exceed 5 per cent of the value of the total funds of the Trust. Also not more than 5 per cent of the funds will be invested in the initial issues of new ventures.

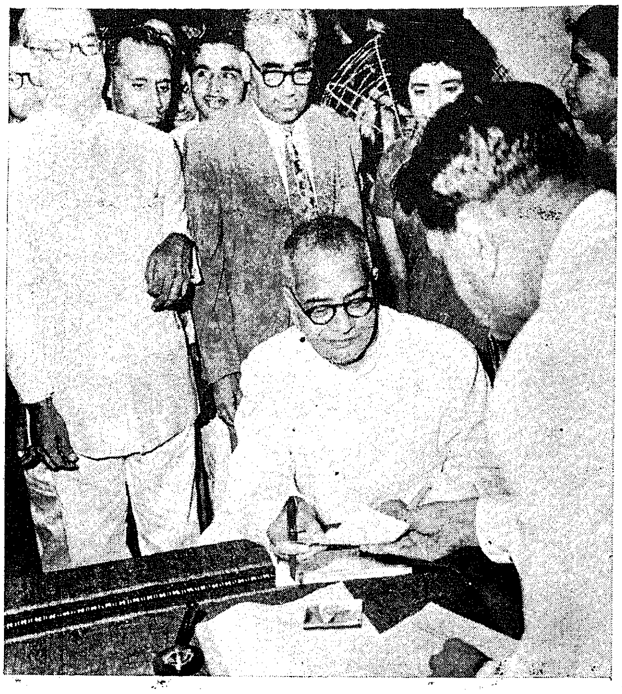
The Chairman of the Trust has said that it is proposed to aim at an yield of over 6 per cent. Capital gains will not be distributed. They will be reflected in an improvement in the price of the units. Capital losses will be offset by capital gains. Ninety per cent of the trust income will be distributed.

No Income-Tax

The Corporation will not pay any taxes on dividends received or paid out by it. The income derived by any unit holder will in his own hands be exempt from

HOW TO BUY UNITS

Application forms are available at any branch of the banks who are authorized agents of the Trust. Application forms, duly filled in, should be handed over along with the payment to the bank. (In case you are applying as a guardian on behalf of a minor or on behalf of a company or any other institution, the application together with the necessary remittance and documents should be forwarded to the head office of the Trust.) After accepting the application, the bank will issue an acknowledgement. You will then receive the unit Certificate or Certificates directly from the Unit Trust of India.



Sri T. T. Krishnamachari is seen buying the Units from the Manager of the State Bank of India, New Delhi

Income-tax up to the limit of Rs. 1,000. These concessions will make investment in the units attractive to the middle and lower income groups and ensure a steady return for them.

Liquidity is ensured by providing for the transfer of the units. The Trust will buy back the units either for retirement or for re-sale at prices to be announced from time to time.

An adventure

These attractive features of this new form of investment should make it popular. As our economy develops, so also there is a corresponding growth in the number of investors. The Unit Trust will incidentally make significant contribution to the capital required for industrial development.

WHAT ARE THE ADVANTAGES?

The unit offers you a unique form of investment because it combines three important advantages :—

It minimises risk :—The Unit Trust operates on the principle of investing its funds in a balanced and well-distributed portfolio of investments. A unit holder of even ten units participates in the entire portfolio consisting of Government securities, industrial debentures, preference shares and equities. Thus the risk of investment is reduced to the minimum.

It gives you a steady return:—The income from your investment is based on the average income of a well-balanced portfolio. Dividends earned by the Trust are not taxed and income distributed by the Unit Trust to individual Unit holders is free from income-tax up to Rs. 1,000.

It can be cashed :—Your investment is liquid because units can be sold back to the Unit Trust whenever money is needed. You can also borrow against units.

These are significant advantages from the point of view of investors, particularly those from the small and medium income groups.

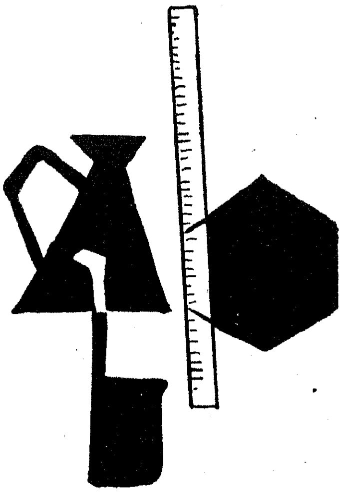
Moving the Bill for the setting up of the Unit Trust, the Finance Minister, Sri Krishnamachari, said : I would christen this attempt as an adventure in small savings and am confident that we are embarking on it with every hope of success. It is primarily for the small man with small savings that the Unit Trust will prove a safe attraction.

A.I.R.

Changes in the Union Cabinet

Sardar Swaran Singh has been appointed as Minister of External Affairs. The Ministry of Industry and Supply, held by Sardar Swaran Singh is now transferred to Sri H. C. Dasappa. The occasion for reshuffle of portfolios has been availed of by the Prime Minister to put the Food and Agriculture Minister, Sri C. Subramaniam in overall charge of the Ministry of Community Development and Co-operation also. Dr. K. L. Rao Minister of State, will be in complete charge of the Ministry of Irrigation and Power. For the first time, Independent India will be having a separate External Affairs Minister.

Sri T. N. Singh, Member of the Planning Commission, has been appointed Minister of State in the Ministry of Industry and Supply. He will be in charge of Heavy Engineering Sri Singh was formerly a member of the Lok Sabha from Uttar Pradesh. He was also a member of the Press Commission.



Metric reform in Madras

Sri S. MONI, I.A.S.,
Controller of Weights and Measures, Madras

As elsewhere in India, the reform of weights and measures in Madras State has also had a chequered career. The need for uniformity of weights and measures had been realised all along, but half-hearted attempts of successive rulers in South India without reference to conditions prevailing outside their territory made these attempts infructuous.

Madras Government efforts

As in the North, commercial weights in Madras State were for long based on multiples of local coins issued by various rulers from time to time. And when, with the advent of the British rule, a compromise was attempted between the Imperial System and the old weights and measures, new sets of values came to be attached to old local units, without a change of local names. The standardisation attempted by the British Government only added to the confusion of weights and measures which were based on traditional values or peculiarities caused by trade practices. Under these conditions the efforts of the Government of Madras to evolve uniformity out of the confusion by legislation were doomed to failure. The last such attempt was in 1948. The chief local units continued, viz., the carat, tola, palam, seer, viss, maund, kundu, kandy and the thulam but the contents of many of these weights and measures varied from district to district and even within local areas, though the names remained unaltered.

The Madras Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1958, is thus the first effective step to introduce uniformity in weights and measures, through the adoption of the metric system, giving up all attempts to correlate new and old weights.

Under this Act the Madras Government introduced metric weights in four districts, viz., Madras City, Chingleput, South Arcot and North Arcot from 1st October 1958 with the option to use old weights for two years, i.e., the use of only the metric weights became compulsory there from 1st October 1960. Metric weights were introduced optionally in the remaining nine districts from 1st April 1960, and compulsorily from 1st April 1962. Metric capacity measures were introduced in the districts of Madras, South Arcot, North Arcot and Chingleput from 1st April 1961, in Salem, Thanjavur, Tiruchirappalli and Ramanathapuram from 1st October 1961 and in the remaining districts from 1st April 1962. Their use became compulsory in the first two stages from 1st April and 1st October 1962 respectively. They have become compulsory throughout the State from 1st April 1963. Linear measures were introduced in the whole State from 1st October 1961 and their use has become compulsory from 1st October 1962.

Organisation

The organisation to enforce the Madras Act was established in 1958 with a special officer under the administrative control of the Board of Revenue, with five Inspectors, in the four districts selected for enforcement. The Weights and Measures Department became a separate department early in 1960. The strength of the Inspectors was increased to 34 for the State in 1960 and a full time Controller was appointed in the senior time scale of the I.A.S. To conform with the pattern of organisation approved by the Fifth All-India Controllers Conference, the field staff has been recently increased.

The implementation of a reform of this magnitude is a complicated, arduous and prolonged task. It requires trained technical personnel. The 'Stamping Smith' attached to the Taluk Officers, who stamped weights and measures according to rough standards (but not weighing and measuring instruments) prescribed under the Madras Weights and Measures Act, 1948, and collected a nominal fee, had to be replaced by

qualified Inspectors trained to handle precision equipment. These Inspectors had to acquire a sound knowledge of the working of various types of complex weighing machines. It took almost a year to get the first batch of half a dozen Inspectors trained in Bombay and put them in position.

The apathy of the public and the trade in the early stages of the reform had to be overcome by persuasion and propaganda. To the small trader, the investment on a new set of cast iron weights was an added burden, not to mention the stamping fees. To the common man, the kilogram and the calculations that went with the conversion of the old units appeared burdensome. Added to this was the difficulty in securing within a short time a sufficient number weights for use in trade.

In fact, in the early stages, manufacturers had to be assured of a steady demand for metric weights. Leading firms engaged in foundry work had to be approached many times and persuaded to take up manufacture of metric weights and measures. It was much later that a manufacturers' Association was formed.

To Eliminate Delays

To eliminate delays and ensure uniformity in prices of weights supplied to Government Departments rates were fixed for supplies to Government Departments. The market prices of weights and those fixed for supply to Government Departments do not differ much at present, though due to scarcity of raw materials and a sudden spurt in the demand there was an increase in prices in April and May 1962. We have enough manufacturers of metric weights at present. The need for price control no longer exists as weights have been purchased both by the trade and Government Departments. To check high prices a fairly liberal policy of getting weights from other States was followed.

There are not enough manufacturers of beam scales in this State. So a liberal policy of allowing imports from other States is followed. Instruments in use are also stamped. Of late, local manufacturers are coming forward and it is hoped that in a few months the position would ease considerably.

Capacity measures are available in sufficient numbers. The use of 'dry measures' for retail sale of foodgrains is a peculiar feature of Madras State. But there is still some difference of opinion among the public as well as the trade whether the struck measure for dry grains should be finally accepted. Enforcement of struck dry measures will be done cautiously.

To start with, one trade after another was taken up for enforcement of weights; the grocery, mutton and bullion trades being the first and firewood the last. Traders were approached through Trades Associations to the maximum extent possible. The Chambers of Commerce and Trade Associations co-operated with the authorities.

Enforcement

On the whole, the enforcement of weights and measures has been satisfactory and the response has been quick, both from the trade and the public. But care has been taken not to force the pace so far as weighing instruments are concerned. The enforcement of metric weights is being carried out first and inconvenience to the trade and confusion to the public avoided by not insisting on a complete change-over regarding beam scales simultaneously. Though many existing beam scales are sub-standard, particularly in Class 'C', in view of the paucity of good 'C' Class beam scales and lack of manufacturers, some leniency had necessarily to be shown in this case.

As the Controller of Weights and Measures was also an Ex-Officio Secretary of the Board of Revenue, the co-operation of the Revenue staff was easily obtained for persuasion and propaganda work in the early stages. As sugar was a controller commodity, enforcement of metric weights, in dealings in sugar was easy and this gave considerable publicity to the reform in 1959. Co-operative societies and regulated markets were also approached to change over to the metric system. The Triplicane Urban Co-operative Society of Madras City, a leading consumers' co-operative society in the State gave a lead to retail traders in the city. The department, also took upon itself to supply weights to Government Departments in the beginning so that private bodies having contact with Government Departments may switch over. All these measures helped to quicken the pace of the metric reform during a rather difficult period.

To keep up the momentum, officials of the Revenue Department of the grade of Tahsildars and Deputy Tahsildars were also empowered to exercise within their jurisdiction the powers of Inspectors of Weights and Measures under section 17 of the Madras Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, , 1958, except physical verification of commercial weights with working standards. Quite recently, officers of the Agricultural Department have also been empowered to exercise the same powers within regulated markets.

Survey

Along with persuation and propaganda work, the Inspectors of Weights and Measures undertook a survey of trading establishments and also the number of weights, and measures, etc., to be replaced owing to

the change-over. The survey was initially taken up in the districts in 1960. A resurvey of trading establishments was also undertaken and this opportunity was availed to assess the progress of enforcements besides collecting data regarding the quarter and the year of stamping of metric weights and instrument used by them. The information gathered during resurvey was brought into a census register which will be usefull for future work.

Publicity

A State Publicity Advisory Committee has been set up with representatives of the concerned Departments participating in its work.

The General Committees of District Development Committee under the Chairmanship of the Collector in each district review the progress of the enforcement of the metric system and also help in publicity. The Assistant Controllers of Weightsand Measures assist this committee.

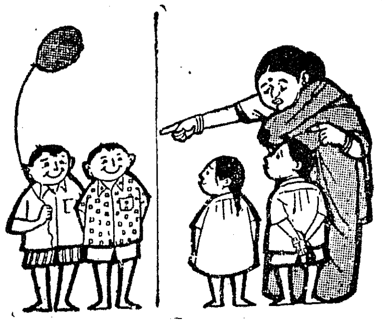
This Department participates in all the Exhibitions held in the State. An-Audio Visual Publicity van of this Department moves throughout the State including rural areas and makes announcements through a loudspeaker and exhibits films on the metric system. The Department has conducted three Publicity Weeks in 1959, 1961 and 1962. The last one was celebrated throughout the State with the active Co-operation of District Collectors and Panchayat Unions.

In addition to various press advertisements and press releases issued both by the Director of Advertising and Visual Publicity and the State Government, this Department has issued considerable publicity material, like conversion tables, brochures, calendars, paper bags, posters, book marks, etc.

Progress

The progress of enforcement of metric system in Government Departments, especially Departments like Public Works, Highways, Irrigation, Education, etc., is proposed to be reviewed at meetings of concerned Heads of Departments once in every period of six months. The response from the trading community and the public has been satisfactory and the change-over is being effected smoothly.

NEVER COMPARE...

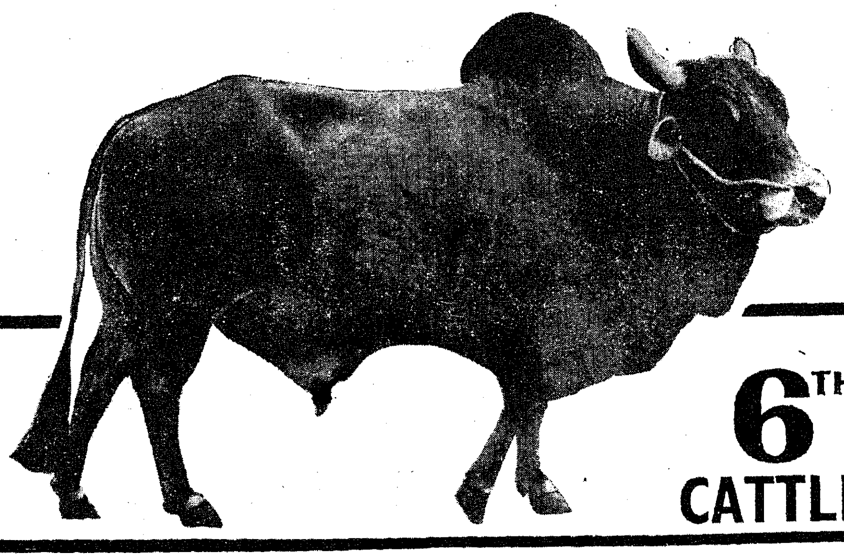


It is always frustrating ! So it is when you compare metric weights and measures with obsolete units like seer or viss. You will only waste your time and often lose in the transaction.

For quick service and fair dealing

USE METRIC UNITS

DA 63/262



6TH MADRAS CATTLE SHOW

DR. I. D. MANTRAMURTI, G.M.V.C., B.V.SC.,
Director of Animal Husbandry, Madras

Cattle shows and exhibitions serve an useful purpose in infusing a healthy competition among the breeders for the production of superior stock. They prove to be an effective medium of propaganda and education on the achievements made in the direction of livestock development in this country. By this ryots also realise the quality and the usefulness of our recognised breeds of livestock so that this may promote sales and ensure remunerative prices for their livestock.

State Cattle Shows have become a feature under the Five-Year Plans and every year such shows are conducted in suitable places of the State. These shows attract good exhibits from all over the State including Government Livestock Farms, providing scope for breeders to exhibit the best of their animals. The present one is sixth in order, held at Madurai from 14th to 16th March 1964.

The Tumcum grounds at Tallakulam was selected as the venue of the show and elaborate arrangements were made for providing stalls for animals, feeds and water for cattle, private stalls, judging rings and lighting arrangements. Exhibition stalls were arranged inside the " Kalai Arangam " in the grounds. The Kalai Arangam and the grounds were decorated with designed arches, colourful illuminations, cutout models of bulls and cloth banners with Tamil versions concerning the usefulness ot cattle.

Variety of cattle

A wide publicity was made to public in the city of Madurai and all over the State by displaying wall posters, distribution of pamphlets, etc. A propaganda van was arranged to announce the conducting of cattle show to the people of Madurai City and suburbs. Cattle and poultry from various Government farms, private institutions and other breeders participated in the show. Three hundred and fifty-one animals of Sindhi, Kangayam, Umblacheri, Hallikar, Gir, Bargur, Tharparkar, Hariana, Cross Breeds of Kangayam, Sindhi and Tharparkar and exotic cross breeds of Cattle and Murrah buffaloes and 100 poultry of white Leghorn and Rhode Island Red entered for the show.

Educative value

A number of stalls were put up by Government Departments and other private companies dealing with the Livestock feeds and Veterinary products. The Animal Husbandry departmental stalls were organised by propaganda unit of this department, Extension wing and Meat Inspection Department and these were of high educative value and gave an exhaustic picture of the departmental activities. The model poultry unit and exotic birds exhibited by Sri W. P. A. R. Nagarajan of Pattiveeranpatti was the highlight of poultry show. A separate poultry show was also conducted along with cattle show in the grounds.

During the days of the show the Tumcum grounds wore a festive appearance with beautiful and attractive entrances and colourful illuminations.

On 13th March 1964 the entries were made for all animals and poultry which participated in the show. In the evening a procession of animals headed by temple elephants and camels and music band was arranged to march through the Masi streets of Madurai.

Role of cattle

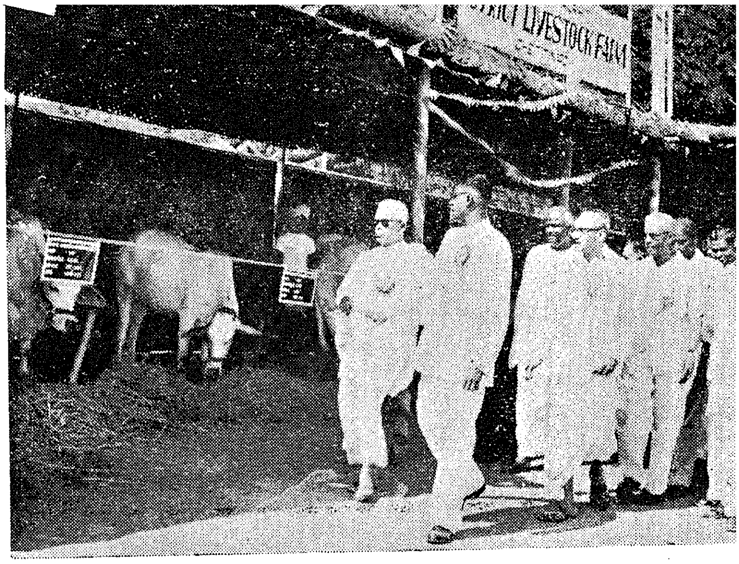
On 14th March 1964 at 9·00 a.m. Sri T. V. Antony, I.A.S., the Collector of Madurai, hoisted the National Flag. Animals were classified and arranged according to breed, class, etc. In the evening Karagam, Kavadi and other folk dances were conducted.

On 15th March 1964 at 9–30 a.m. the inauguration of the show was made by Honourable the Chief Minister of Madras Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam in the midst of a huge distinguished gathering. The Chief Minister declared open the show by feeding green grass to a cow on the stage which synchronised with the unveiling of a model depicting ' 'a hut with a hen and cock with their chicks in front of it; a ryot starting to the fields with a pair of bullocks and a plough on his shoulders; a rustic woman, his wife, feeding a cow with calf"—Signs of prosperity in a village.

The Director of Animal Husbandry welcomed the gathering and explained the advantages of scientific breeding of cattle and their development in our State. The Chief Minister in his speech vividly emphasised the role of cattle in the economy of the State and the importance of milk in our diet. He said the cattle shows of this type increase the enthusiasm of the cattle breeders which help to improve the health of the cattle. He wanted the people to take modern methods to accelerate the pace of progress.

National wealth

The Minister for Home, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Sri P. Kakkan, who presided over the function explained the various efforts of the department to bring about the development of cattle wealth. He requested the public to evince keen interest in the development of cattle, sheep and poultry not only for personal gains but also to increase the National Wealth at large. He also released an attractive Souvenir with valuable materials on Animal Husbandry on the occasion of the show. The Ministers went round the show grounds, inspecting the animals that were gathered for the cattle show. Judging of animals was done.



The Chief Minister Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam and the Home Minister Sri P. Kakkan go round the cattle show held in Madurai

In the evening a large number of people about 5,000 visited the show and also witnessed the drama and film shows arranged for the purpose.

Prizes

On March 16th morning the prizes for winners were distributed by Honourable the Minister for Home, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry. A Tharparkar Cow from District Livestock Farm, Chettinad was judged as best animal in the show and a Kangayam bull, belonging to Srimathi Parvathi Arjunan, M.L.A., was selected as best breeding bull. In all 147 prizes were distributed to the winners at the show at a cost of Rs. 7,700.

The exhibition and show continued till 8 p.m. and during all days of the show huge crowd of people visited the show. The show has made an impact in the minds of the public and its usefulness was greatly realised.

Agriculture is as important as guns for Defence

—Jawaharlal Nehru

Music of the Ancient Tamils

PROF. P. SAMBAMOORTHY,
Fellow, Sangita Nataka Akademi, New Delhi

The ancient Tamils possed a good system of music. The Silappadikaram 2nd Cent. A.D, throws a flood of light on the music of the ancient Tamils. There were works written before the Silappadikaram and dealing with music. But they are all lost.

The Arangetrukadai and Aychchyar Kuravai are two of the cantos in the Tamil epic Silappadikaram which give a mine of information relating to the music and dance of the period. Bharatha in his Natya Sastra (Chapter XIV) testifies to the high musical culture of the people who inhabited South India even in his time.

Twenty-two srutis

The ancient Tamils used a scale of 22 Srutis. The terms *Alagu* and *Matra* were used as the equivalent of Sruti. They used the scale of just intonation. Their suddha mela was the modern Harikambhoji scale. The values of the notes figuring in the Suddha mela are given by the numbers 4 4 3 2 4 3 2 wherein the figure 4 stands for Chatussruti interval (9/8 or major tone), the figure 3 for Trisruti interval (10/9 or minor tone) and the figure 2 for the Dvisruti interval (16/15 or semi-tone). Through the process of modal shift of tonic, they derived 7 scales which have their parallels in the Murchanas of Shadja Grama. *Pan* was a heptatonic scale or Sampurna raga ; (Pan also meant a song) ; Panniyattiram denoted a Shadava raga or Hexatonic scale. Tiram denoted an Audava raga or Pentatonic scale and Tirattiram a Swarantara raga.

The three principal musical instruments Yazh, Kuzhal and Maddalam had their parallels in the celebrated Vadya trayam : Veena, Venu and Mridangam. The harp was the principal instrument used at that period. It was tune to the Suddha mela, Harikambhoji and was played on open strings. Scales like Sankarabharana were played on the harp by the shift of the tonic note. This accounts for the fact that the highest note touched in the *Tevaram* hymns in Sankarabharana raga (Pazham Panjuram Pan) is only Tara Shadja. Hymns in Pazhampanjuram were sung by taking the manote string of the harp as the tonic. The seven notes had the names Kural, Tuttam, Kaikkilai, Uzhai, Ili, Vilani, Taram. These correspond to the notes *sa ri ga ma pa dha ni.*

Thevaram hymns

The *Tevaram* hymns constitute the earliest example of sacred music of South India. Oduvars employed in the Saiva temples have preserved for us the traditional method of singing them. The *Tevaram* hymns emerged from the mouths of the great composers as a song stream i.e., as a combined dhatu—Matu stream. The authors of the Tevaram i.e., Tirugnana Sambandar, Appar and Sundaramurti Nayanar lived between the 7th and 9th Centuries A.D. Adi Sankaracharya refers in his *Soundarya Lahari* to Tirugnana Sambandar as the Dravida Sisu fed with wisdom milk by Goddess. 24 Pans or rags were used at that time. The pans were classified into Pagal pan i.e., to be sung during day time, Iruvu pan i.e., to be sung during night time and Poduppan i.e., which can be sung at all times.

The *Tevaram* hymns constitute the cream of sacred music in Tamil. They mirror to us the type of music that was in existence 1,200 years ago. They belong to a period when there was a single system of music in the whole of India. The bifurcation into the two systems, Hindusthani and Karnatic came at a later period. Hence the music of the *Tevaram* is of interest to people in North India as well. Tirugnana Sambandar happens to be the youngest composer in the history of world music. As a boy of 3 he sang his first hymn *Todudaiya Seviyan*. The *Tevaram* is the finest example of Desi Sangita. The Hrudaya Ranjaka character of the Desi Sangita, was its strength and

sustenance. The Pans of the *Tevaram* correspond to developed ragas. These pans had their Arohana and Avarohana krama, Jiva svaras, Nyasa svaras, Rakti prayogas, characteristic srutis and Gamakas. It is in the pans of the *Tevaram* that we first come across the fullfledged Bhashanga raga. The Pans *Viyazhak-kurinji* (Saurashtra), *Kausikam* (Bhairavi), *Megaragak-kurinji* (Nilambari) and *Takkesi* (Kambhoji) are the bhashanga ragas met with in the hymns of the *Tevaram*. A number of pans of the *Tevaram* are either Janyas of the Harikambhoji mela or Sankarabharana mela (which is the Ma murchena of Harikambhoji) or Kharahara-priya (which is the Panchama murchana Harikambhoji).

Kudimiyamalai inscription

The Kudimiyamalai music inscription in Pudukottai, Tanjore district is of great importance from the historical point of view. It is the only piece of music inscribed on a piece of flat rock in the whole of India. The four varieties of a note are referred to therein by the names ra ri ru re ; ga gi gu ge, etc. The music phrases are in the forms of tanas and the ragas comprised are the seven suddha jatis of the time. The musical exercises in the inscription were intended to enable one to acquire proficiency in playing the stringed instrument *Parivadini*. Many datu prayogas figure in the svara phrases. The author of the inscription was Mahendravarman I, the Pallava Ruler of the 7th Centuries A.D.

Andal, the author of the hymns, constituting the *Tiruppavai* is the earliest woman composer figuring in the history of world music.

Bharvati Kala Manram, Souvenir, 1964.

COMPULSORY DEPOSIT SCHEME

Relief to lower income groups

The Government of India have, for some time, been considering the question of giving relief to income-tax payers in the lower income groups who had made Compulsory Deposits.

As part of the Budget proposals for the current year, marginal relief was given to the lower income groups in respect of their additional surcharge liability and consequently of the Compulsory Deposits to be made by them. As a further step and having regard to the general economic conditions, it has now been decided to allow premature repayment to persons whose deposits do not exceed Rs. 150 which will cover people with incomes up to Rs. 5,000 per annum. Further, persons of 70 years in age and above will also be allowed to withdraw their deposits, irrespective of the amount involved.

In order that there may be no delay in dealing with such cases of hardship it has been decided to authorize the deposit offices to sanction repayment without any further reference to Government. This facility will also extend to cases of foreigners who are leaving India without intention to return as well as cases where the depositor is dead and his nominees or heirs want to withdraw the amount deposited.

A notification giving effect to these decisions has been issued in the *Gazette of India*. Applications on the prescribed form together with the pass books and, where necessary, documents, such as, proof of age, death, or intention to leave India, should be addressed to the deposit offices where the accounts stand. As proof of age, academical, service, or life insurance records and affidavits would be accepted.

Navasandhi

Navasandhi is one of the forgotten forms of Bharatha Natya which is now being revived. It consists of short dance numbers aimed at propitiating the guardian deities of the nine Directions during the flag-hoisting ceremony at the beginning of annual temple festivals.

The dance invoking each deity is composed on a rare Thala and based on a particular combination of poses, foot work and Nritta Hastas. In these dances one may find a few Hastas not commonly in vogue in the Sadir Natya.

The presiding deities of the nine Directions are : Brahma—Centre, Indra—East, Agni—South-East, Yama—South, Niruthi—South-West, Varuna—West, Vayu—North-West, Kubera—North, Esanya—North-East.

Starting with a Jathi, each dance is followed by Sahitya in praise of the particular deity. The Raga, Thala, Vadya, Nritta, Hastas and Jathis vary according to the deities.

The credit for reviving this dance-form should go to Kittappa and Sivanandam sons of Tanjore Ponniah Pillai.

Development of Consumers' Co-operative Societies

(CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEMES)

As a measure to check rise of prices in essential commodities and with a view to helping the poorer sections of the community, the Government of India have formulated three schemes for implementation in this State in addition to the schemes already included in the State Third Five-Year Plan under 'Consumers' Co-operative Societies.

A short summary of the working of these three important schemes is given in the following note.

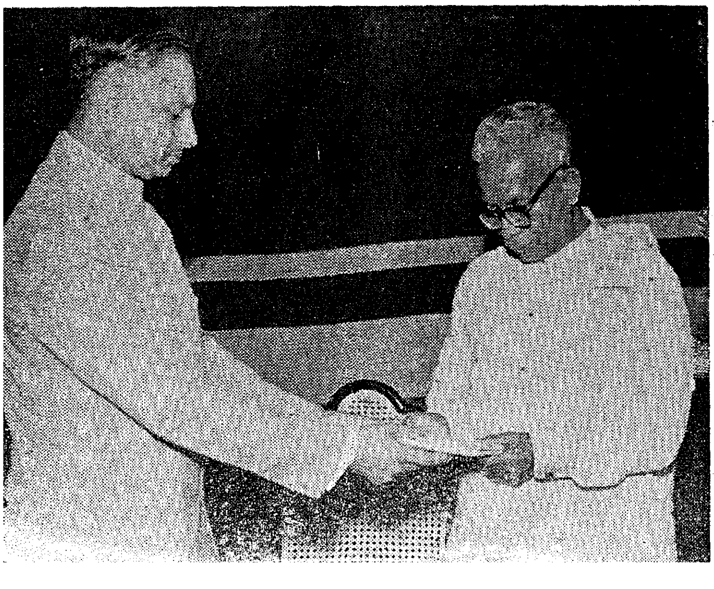
The scheme envisages the organisation of wholesale and primary stores in the Cities and towns with a population of one lakh and over in the first phase, and in those with a population of 75,000 and over 50,000 and over, in the second and third phases respectively.

Organisation of consumer stores

The scheme was introduced in nine towns, viz., Nagercoil, Tuticorin, Madurai, Tiruchirappalli, Thanjavur, Madras, Vellore, Salem and Coimbatore in December 1962. There were already 11 wholesale stores and 106 retail units. The 106 retail units comprised 10 retail branches of the wholesale stores, 12 primary stores and 83 retail branches opened by the primary stores. The scheme drawn up for the first phase in this State envisaged the opening of 71 retail units in addition to the 106 already functioning. Against this target 96 retail units have been opened.

The retail units deal with essential commodities like foodgrains, pulses, oil and sugar and also in other consumer articles, such as textiles, electrical goods, stationery, toilets, etc. The retail units functioning in the 9 towns and Cities included in the first phase of the scheme sold goods to the value of Rs. 209 lakhs during the period from December 1962 to July 1963. It is estimated that they have been selling most of the commodities at prices lower than the market prices, keeping only the minimum margin required for working expenses. The retail units have been generally able to influence the price level in the localities in which they are functioning.

Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam, Chief Minister is seen releasing the Sri Jawaharlal Nehru Memorial Stamp

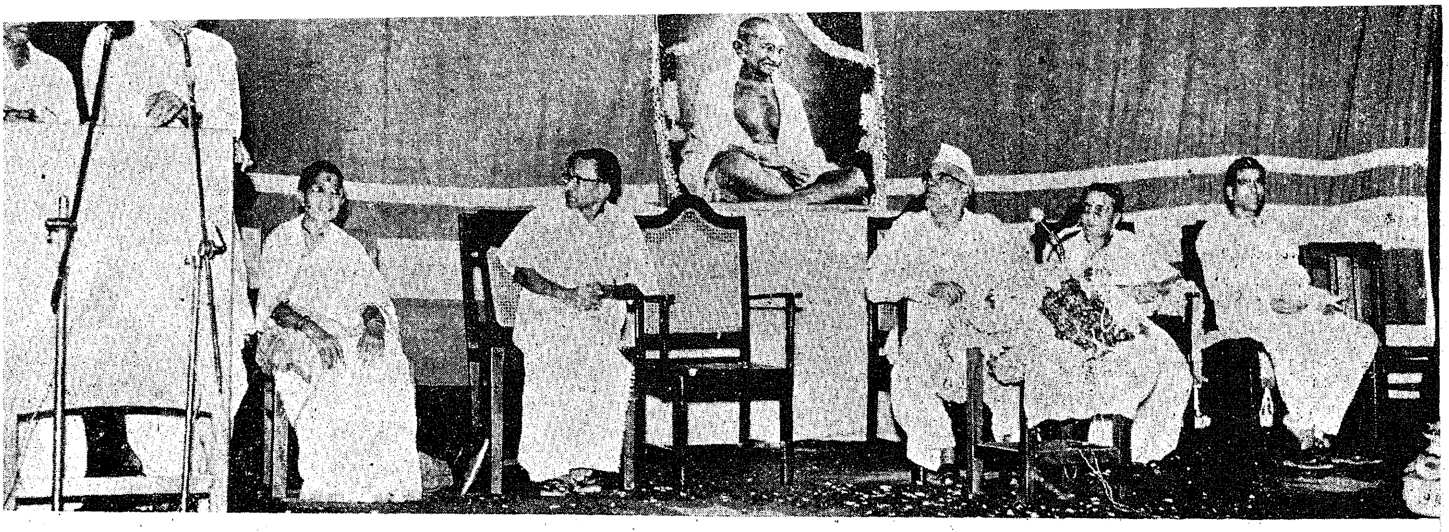


The District Supply and Marketing Societies and the State Co-operative Supply and Marketing Society have been functioning as wholesale stores under the scheme. They made bulk purchases of the commodities required for distribution through the retail units mostly from the production centres at favourable seasons. The value of the bulk purchases made by them from December 1962 to July 1963 amounted to Rs. 238 lakhs, of which Rs. 150 lakhs represented the value of paddy and rice purchased. Some of the purchases were made from centres outside the State, such as rice from Nellore in the Andhra Pradesh, tamarind from Tumkur in the Mysore, Chillies from the Madhya Pradesh and coconut oil from the Kerala State.

Government have provided financial assistance to the societies. During the year 1962–63, a sum of Rs. 15·20 lakhs was given. Rs. 13·82 lakhs by way of loan and the balance of way of subsidy. Apart from this, the wholesale stores availed of Rs. 145 lakhs from the credit granted by the State Bank of India under Government guarantee.

Distribution through Village Co-operatives

As a complimentary to the Centrally sponsored consumers' scheme for the establishment of urban consumers' stores at the retail and wholesale level, the Government of India have formulated another scheme for the



Sri Jayaprakash Narayan speaking at the Sarvodaya Conference held recently in Madras

distribution of essential consumer articles in rural areas through rural credit societies. The village societies are expected to obtain their requirements of consumer articles from the marketing co-operatives. The marketing societies, which undertake this activity, will be eligible for financial assistance towards the cost of additional staff that they may employ for this purpose.

It is proposed to implement the scheme in three phases. About 2,500 village credit societies will be taken up for the purpose during the current year. 1,500 societies will be taken up during 1964-65 and 1,000 in 1965-66. Thus, in all 5,000 societies will be brought under the scheme by the end of the Third Plan.

As ragards the procurement and distribution of consumer articles, it is considered that the District supply and marketing societies, with their business experience and resources, can undertake this work at convenient centres. It is expected that about 100 branches of the district societies will work the scheme. A sum of Rs. 5,000 has been provided towards the cost of additional staff to be employed in the branches of the District Societies. The assistance will be spread over for a period of three years.

Consumer Stores for Plantation Workers

With a view to helping the industrial workers to obtain essential commodities at reasonable prices, a scheme for the organisation of consumers' stores for their benefit has been taken up from January 1963. The industrial and the Plantation managements are expected to give financial assistance, such as, contribution towards share capital and working capital, rent free accommodation or accommodation on nominal rent in the factory premises, etc. 198 industrial establishments and 102 plantations with 250 or more employees have been selected for the establishment of co-operative stores.

There are 78 consumers' stores for the industrial workers. They are supplying goods to the value of Rs. 360 lakhs per annum. Thirty-three new stores have been organised after the introduction of the scheme the total being 111 covering 109 industrial establishments. The stores are organised with the active help of the employers. Even in cases where help from the managements is not immediately forthcoming, stores are organised in the hope that the managements would be extending their help in due course. Special mention may be made of the progress made in the establishment of co-operatives for industrial workers in the Coimbatore and Tiruchirappalli districts. In the Coimbatore district, 51 industrial establishments out of 66 establishments have been covered by 49 co-operatives, while in the Tiruchirappalli district all the 10 industrial establishments have been covered by the co-operatives. The district societies will be provided with credit facility to the extent of Rs. 85 lakhs from the State Bank of India on Government guarantee for this purpose.

Twenty-two plantations have been covered by 20 retail units, 18 in the Coimbatore district and 2 in the Nilgiris district. With a view to impress on the plantation managements the need for organising consumers' co-operatives for plantation labour, special meetings of the planters and trade union leaders were convened at Ootacamund and Coonoor in May 1963. The Deputy Minister for Labour and Employment, Government of India, who was present at the meetings, appealed to the planters to give all possible help and co-operate with the department to set up consumer co-operatives in the plantations.

BOOK REVIEW

"Rural Industrialisation" by Sri V. A. Vasudevaraju (De Nobili Press, Madurai- . pp. 36+10, Re. 1).

Much is being talked about the ways and means of increasing agriculture production. The causes of low yield per acre in India are the underemployment of the rural populace and a very low land man ratio. Subdivision and fragmentation of land holdings is also causing undue damage to this industry. The only panacea for these evils is of diverting a considerable section of the rural folk to other remunerative channels Rural Industrialization seems to be the most effective device. But the industries should be able to absorb the population. This means the rural population should have easy access to it. This brings us *vis a vis* the technical nature of industries. This is the main stumbling block in the process of rural industrialisation. Once this is solved then it will be easy to tackle much of the problems which are at present faced by the country's rural economy.

Sri V. A. Vasudevaraju, who has been associated with the Gandhi Niketan Ashram, T. Kallupatti, in his small booklet " Rural Industrialisation " has very lucidly and impressively dealt with the obstacles—administrative, psychological and other problems, created, faced, and visualised—that come in the way of rural industrialisation. He had also suggested some effective measures to overcome these hurdles. The timing of the publication is appropriate, since the formation of the Fourth Plan is already on the anvil. It need not be said that the booklet is a valuable contribution to a constructive programme of rural industrialisation. The author has very aptly referred to Prof. Galbraith's saying that the test of Economic Growth for the ordinary man is the immediate improvement in his well being. Can there be any programme other than a crash programme of rural industrialisation to make bold attempt to explore the potentialities of the unknown path of rural economy?

Sixty-seven camps for migrants opened

Sixty-seven camps have so far been opened in nine States to house migrants. The States are : Assam, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Tripura and Madras. Seven more camps are to be opened soon.

There are 18 camps in Assam housing 88,816 migrants. The Dandakaranya Development Authority runs six of the biggest camps with about 85,382 migrants in them.

In Madhya Pradesh, three camps have been opened at Tawa, Betul and Sarguja to accommodate about 15,000 persons. More than 8,000 persons have been sheltered in two camps in Maharashtra, a thousand persons in three camps in Andhra Pradesh and 4,000 persons in two camps in Bihar.

There are 22 camps in Tripura housing 13,791 migrants, and five in Madras with nearly a thousand refugees. In Uttar Pradesh more than 5,000 migrants have been accommodated in Rudrapur and Hastinapur.

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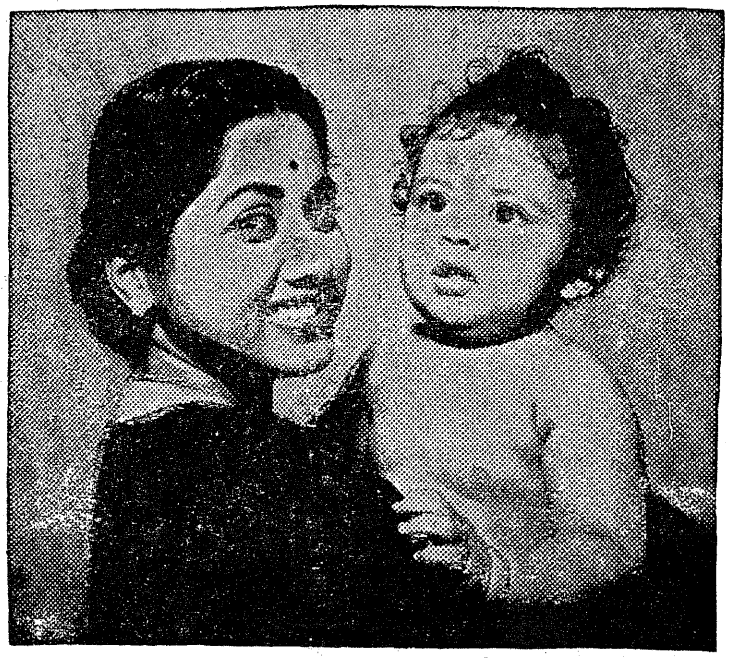

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